

THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, the Fine Arts, Music and the Drama.

No. 3749.

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LITERATURE

Letters received by the East India Company from its Servants in the East.—Vol. III. 1615. Edited by William Foster. (Sampson Low & Co.)

WHEN the first volume of this series was issued we were constrained to point out (*Athen.* No. 3620) many flaws and errors which impaired the value of the book as an important contribution to the early history of the East India Company. It is therefore with pleasure we note that our criticism has been taken in the right spirit, and that many of the blemishes we pointed out have been removed and the majority of our suggestions adopted. Mr. William Foster, the new editor, has had the difficult task of building on a bad foundation; but he has made the alterations with great skill and in the unobtrusive manner which distinguishes a good workman. We protested against the original manuscripts not being reproduced in faithful typography. As we stated:—

"To modernize the spelling or in any way tamper with ancient documents is rightly regarded by experts as a cardinal sin. It destroys their picturesque and old-world flavour, and renders them useless to the serious student of history."

To have printed in the present volume the documents *verbatim et literatim* might possibly have been regarded as causing too great a breach in the series; but we are pleased to find that the present editor gives the original orthography not only in the case of names of places (as in the previous volumes), but also in the case of names of persons, coins, weights and measures, and of any term of special interest. He has also enhanced the value of the volume as a book of reference by giving the address and endorsement of each document. In our review of the first volume we stated: "Short biographical and geographical notes might with advantage have been added, commodities explained, and perplexing terms made more clear." This advice has been taken, and fifty pages of notes have been added. They are, unlike the majority of notes, explanatory of the text, and they contain much original matter,

gathered not only from the India Office records, but from original documents in the British Museum and contemporary printed works. At p. 303 we have a model note on Christopher Farewell and a mention of his most rare duodecimo, 'An East India Collation; or, a Discourse of Travels, set forth in Sundry Observations, Brief and Delightful.' The bad, meagre glossary, which we condemned, has been abolished.

In the present volume there is a good deal of new matter which can hardly fail to be of use and interest to those engaged in exploring the early history of the East India Company. Fresh light is thrown on the fight at Swally with the Portuguese armada, which first made the natives regard our power with respect. From the accounts in the letters from Thomas Elkington, Timothy Mallory, Samuel Squire, and a few others, it is evident that some points in the generally accepted story require correction. Mr. Foster demurs to the lavish praise which has been given to the strategy displayed by Downton and his associates. He writes:—

"In point of fact, most, if not all, the honours in this respect appear to belong of right to the Portuguese. In the first place it may reasonably be doubted whether the English commander did not make a mistake in awaiting the attack in Swally Road, with its treacherous shallows and confined space for manœuvring, instead of boldly going forth in the first instance, as West had done, to try his fortune in the Main. Though the Portuguese forces may seem to have been overwhelmingly superior, we must remember that figures alone give no true idea of the relative strength of the two fleets. The Viceroy's ships were cumbrous and slow of sail; their guns, if more numerous, were worse served than those of the English, while the bulk of the Europeans in the fleet were of little or no use in the long-distance fight. Moreover, if on no other grounds than the impression likely to be made on the minds of the natives, the adoption of a bold policy would have been the wiser policy, if it entailed some risk."

The fight at Swally was won by the pluck of the British seaman. Thrice the swarms of Portuguese soldiers gained a footing on the deck of the Hope, and thrice they were driven back before the arrival of the other English ships on the scene caused the assailants to take to flight. Downton may not be worthy to rank (as Low ranked him in his 'History of the Indian Navy') with that "great admiral" Lord Howard, of Armada fame; but that he was a great and skilful seaman is beyond dispute. The letters of these merchants and mariners enable one to realize the simple pluck and tenacity with which they perilled their bodies to venture into unknown seas and lands; and the dissensions and jealousies that raged among them bring home the fact that they were not legendary heroes, but middle-class Englishmen. Into that strife even the chaplains threw themselves, and the letter of the Rev. Peter Rogers is one of the most characteristic documents in the present collection. Regarding Downton the reverend gentleman feels bound to inform the Company that their general "is not the man you take him to be touching religion"; "he always ill-treats his ministers"; "he neglects prayers on the weekdays, and very often on the Sabbath the exercises of religion, to the great offence and discouragement of many"; but worse than all was

"his abusing of your Worship, accusing you that though you professed religion many of you, he always found those that made not so great a show to be more generous, more bountiful, and the like."

The chaplain concludes with the pious wish:—

"But I pray God bless him and prosper him in his proceedings, and forgive his hypocrisy and pretence of religion, whereas there is none in him in respect of that which he makes show of."

Long before this indictment reached the Court the brave old admiral had gone to rest, "Death lying in ambush to entrap," says Purchas, "whom by open force he could not devour." He had left England for the last time, "with body unrecovered," moved thereto by zeal for the Company's service, to take part in this "troublesome, pining, and weary business," and from Surat he wrote to Sir Thomas Smythe, Governor of the East India Company, that "this voyage will wear me out." The death of his only son in the hour of his last triumph broke the stout old heart. In a letter from John Jourdain to the East India Company, dated Bantam, the 30th of September, anno 1615, we have the following brief entry:—

"The 12th of June arrived the General, Nicholas Downton, with two ships, viz., the New Year's Gift and the Solomon, the Hector being gone for Achin, which we daily expect. The 6th of August died the General, Nicholas Downton."

The memory of Nicholas Downton and of the fight at Swally will remain fresh in the minds of Englishmen as long as they revere deeds of valour. Some new particulars of his early career are added in a note. The visit of the Hector and Thomas to Achin is also described for the first time, and some additional light is thrown on the internal administration of the state. The present volume contains also a good deal that is fresh regarding affairs in the Moluccas, especially Ball's voyage to the Bandas and Amboyna. At p. 34 of the introduction there is the following note:—

"An account of this voyage will be found in Dr. Gardiner's 'History of England,' vol. iii. p. 166; but therein no mention is made of Ball or Cokayne, who were really in charge, everything being ascribed to Skinner, who, though an active participator, was only master of the vessel."

With regard to the affairs in India itself, the present volume opens with a full and interesting account of the reception of William Edwards by the Emperor Jahāngir at Ajmere. On February 7th, 1615, he and his companion were brought before the emperor, and delivered

"our King's Majesty letter and presents, which were these: our King, Queen, and Lady Elizabeth's pictures, the rich cloak, the best case of bottles, the great ebony framed looking-glass, and the case of knives, all which the King esteemed much, especially our King's picture and the rich cloak."

The emperor's liking was such unto the cloak

"that presently he gathered the same in his arms and carried it in to his foresaid Queen to show her, which was much admired of the gentlemen about him, and given for an extraordinary favour and liking thereunto, such is his greatness."

Among the gifts was a young mastiff,

"which I presented to the King and he highly esteemeth; for that the same day I presented him the King caused him to fight with a tiger, which he presently killed, and for the same the King hath given him into the charge of a gentleman of great worth to keep, and often sendeth for him to look upon."

In another letter we are informed that the mastiff killed both a tiger (leopard) in the imperial presence, "and likewise too a wild boar; wherefore he saith that a rich jewel would not have more contented him."

The emperor, pleased at the presents sent to him, and "endeared unto us for defending his port of Suratt," gave orders for the framing of a letter to "our King":—

"After it was finished and ready for the seal, the Mogul, perusing the same, disliked it for not sufficiently displaying the title, honour, and attributes of our King, interlined the same with his own hand in a more respective manner, as may appear in the said letter, the copy whereof I send herewith, which I desire may be set forth in English with its true colour, which I understand, by the best interpretation can here be had, that it is full of princely compliments unto the full satisfaction of our King's Majesty in the points of our desired commerce."

The letter is printed in the appendix, and it is certainly full of princely compliments:

"The Great Mogul to James I. (March, 1615).—Unto a king rightly descended from his ancestors, bred in military affairs, and clothed with honour and justice, a commander worthy of all command, strong and constant in the religion which the great Prophet Christ did teach, King James, whose love hath bred such impression in my thoughts as shall never be forgotten, but as the smell of amber or as a garden of fragrant flowers whose beauty and odour is still increasing, so be assured my love shall grow and increase with yours."

A *farmán*, or charter, authorizing the English to trade, was also issued. No copy of it has come to light, but, according to the report of Edwards, its terms were "very effectual to the purpose of our trade and fair entertainment." About the time that Edwards was with Jáhángír, the Company, after some debate, resolved to procure the despatch to the Mogul of "one that hath been practised in state business," as a special ambassador from the English Court. Their choice fell upon Sir Thomas Roe, and King James having ratified it, Roe embarked with his suite on February 2nd, 1615. The closing pages of the present volume deal with Roe's first few months in India, but they might have been omitted, as all they contain is known from Roe's own diary, a new edition of which has recently been published by the Hakluyt Society. In the 'Letters received by the East India Company' only new matter of special importance should be included. The present volume, however, is far better than those that preceded it, and does credit to all concerned in it, from Miss E. B. Sainsbury—who not only made the necessary transcripts, but also compiled the index—to the capable editor whose introduction gives a clear and succinct analysis of the papers contained in the book.

A History of English Romanticism in the Eighteenth Century. By Henry A. Beers. (Kegan Paul & Co.)

THIS interesting study in literary evolution is of American provenance, and first took shape as "a series of lectures given in elective courses"—whatever those may be—in Yale College. Mr. Beers has to trace and explain the history of a transition, and the very appropriate method which he adopts is that of isolating and treating in separate chapters the various tendencies which brought that transition about, and, between Pope and Wordsworth, converged upon the common result of a complete transformation of English literary ideals. Thus, after an introductory chapter on the notion of romanticism, Mr. Beers proceeds to a brief summary of the leading characteristics of Augustan writing. He then, as it were, moves up to the fortress, one after another, the forces of assault. Imitation of Spenser by Gilbert West and Shenstone and Mickle and half a dozen others; renewed study of landscape, such as one finds, for all the Augustan diction, in Thomson's 'Seasons'; imitation of Milton, the elegiac Milton of 'Il Penseroso,' by Gray and Collins, and in countless minor odes and elegies; literary investigation of the Middle Ages initiated by the Wartons; the note of "Gothic" romance struck, in spite of its stucco-work, by Walpole's 'Castle of Otranto'—each in turn did something to sap the mighty Popian theory of verse, with its deadening concentration on contemporary and urban themes. And each in turn is studied by Mr. Beers with a minute and patient knowledge of the byways of eighteenth-century literature and a happy skill in extracting from hopelessly dead books what little they may have to contribute that is characteristic towards the illustration of his argument. One has really to be the more grateful to him because so seldom in the course of his researches does he have the felicity of dealing with work of first-class importance. Even in the famous 'Elegy' a recent accomplished essayist has found that "mediocrity said its own true word." There are the 'Seasons' and Collins's 'Odes.' Some might add Chatterton. Nine-tenths of the rest, even though it take rank on the shelf of the classics, has already become alms for oblivion. In his closing chapters Mr. Beers comes upon more familiar ground. The Percy 'Reliques,' the Rowley poems, and Ossian are the successive marks which measure the progress of the rising tide of romance. To the philosophic mind it will always be a curious reflection that they are all, together with the 'Castle of Otranto,' of the nature of what may be called "fakes." The scholarly conscience belongs, indeed, to the later rather than the earlier stages of literary movements, and a stream of ideas is none the less a fertilizing force because it runs through somewhat muddy channels. The landscape gardening of the day shared with literature its somewhat imperfect conception of what the return to simplicity meant, and one finds Walpole characteristically proposing to set up artificial ruins, "a feigned steeple of a distant church, or an unreal bridge to disguise the termination of water."

Much as we appreciate the detailed work which Mr. Beers has done, we feel bound to break a lance with him on the general conception of his subject from which he starts. He finds the central point of romanticism, and therefore the central point of his book, in "the reproduction in modern art or literature of the life and thought of the Middle Ages." Now we hold that—so far as the term "romanticism" is taken as a general name for the literary movement which began in the middle of the eighteenth century, and has more or less lasted through the nineteenth—to define it thus is to define it by an accident. A piece of literature is demonstrably romantic, not in virtue of the sources from which its materials are drawn, but in virtue of the handling which those materials receive from the artist. Walter Pater's definition of romance as consisting in "the addition of strangeness to beauty" is better, because it does rest upon a fundamental quality of poetic temper; it makes romance a psychological, and not a chronological thing. But even Pater, we think, is too much preoccupied with the antithesis between romanticism and classicism. This antithesis no doubt exists; but the statement of it does not exhaust the definition of romanticism. A more important antithesis still is that between romanticism and realism. Face to face with every-day life, the creative imagination may find exercise in either of two ways. It may occupy itself directly with that every-day life, reflecting and representing it in the magic mirror of art. This, in the finest sense, is realism. Or it may recoil from the every-day life, and build up for its own delight another world, nearer to the heart's desire—an earthly paradise, an imagined Greece, an imagined Scandinavia, an imagined Arcady, or what not. This is the essential temper of romanticism, and the imagined Middle Ages on which, owing to an historic accident, Mr. Beers lays so much stress, is after all but one amongst the many earthly paradises which romanticism fashions.

However one defines it, romanticism is not a formula which really exhausts the meaning of the literary revolt of the eighteenth century. Mr. Beers feels this. He has a chapter on the landscape poets, but he is very doubtful whether he has any justification for including it: "There is nothing necessarily romantic in literature that concerns itself with rural life or natural scenery," and again:—

"It will be needless to pursue the history of nature poetry into its later developments; needless to review the writings of Cowper and Crabbe, for example, neither of whom was romantic in any sense—or even of Wordsworth, the spirit of whose art, as a whole, was far from romantic."

Of course the study of nature is not romantic. As distinguished from pastoralism it is, in the sense in which we have just used the word "realism," realistic. At the same time, the two tendencies—of romance and of the return to nature—are so closely interwoven in later eighteenth-century writing, that it is impossible, as Mr. Beers has found, entirely to dissociate them. Certainly one does not get over the difficulty by including Thomson and excluding Cowper. Eighteenth-century romanticism was, after all, but one side of a general

Aufklärung, a reaction of the poetic imagination, as a whole, against a non-imaginative age. It was determined by the twofold character of all poetic imagination to which we have alluded that this *Aufklärung* should have both its romantic and realistic side, and between romance and realism the whole of the nineteenth-century literature which grew out of that *Aufklärung* has oscillated. The victory of the *Aufklärung* is marked by the issue of the 'Lyrical Ballads,' and its twofold aspect is admirably illustrated by what Coleridge says in the 'Biographia Literaria' as to the design of that volume. Coleridge was to direct his endeavours

"to persons and characters supernatural, or at least romantic, yet so as to transfer from our inward nature a human interest and a semblance of truth sufficient to procure for these shadows of imagination that willing suspension of disbelief for the moment which constitutes poetic faith."

Wordsworth was

"to give the charm of novelty to things of every day, and to excite a feeling analogous to the supernatural by awakening the mind's attention from the lethargy of custom and directing it to the loveliness and the wonders of the world before us."

Coleridge's task was romance; Wordsworth's was realism.

History of St. Vincent de Paul, Founder of the Congregation of the Mission (Vincentians) and of the Sisters of Charity. By Monseigneur Bougaud, Bishop of Laval. Translated by the Rev. Joseph Brady, C.M. 2 vols. (Longmans & Co.)

Saint Vincent de Paul. By Emanuel de Broglie. Translated by Mildred Partidge. With a Preface by George Tyrrell, S.J. (Duckworth & Co.)

BEFORE his death in 1888 Monseigneur Bougaud had long been known to Frenchmen as an accomplished hagiographer; for his biographies of Saint Bénigne, Sainte Monique, Sainte Chantal, and of "la bienheureuse" Marguerite Marie, had gone through many editions, although unfamiliar to ordinary readers on this side of the Channel, excepting, perhaps, a few Roman Catholics. The most serious work, however, which the Bishop of Laval accomplished—whilst he was Canon of Orleans—was 'Le Christianisme et les Temps Présents,' a voluminous apologia, containing the preambles of the faith, as the theologians have it; that is to say, the general and fundamental questions of the Roman Church, the Christian dogmas, and, finally, the Christian life; and Monseigneur Lagrange, now Bishop of Chartres, declares, in the preface to the history before us, that when a priest of the present day considers what book he can best place in the hands of a man of the world to recall him to the faith, it is almost always 'Le Christianisme et les Temps Présents' which he recommends. After the completion of this notable work Monseigneur Bougaud spent the last few years of his life in compiling his 'Histoire de St. Vincent de Paul,' the first edition of which was not printed until 1889, some months after the death of the author, under the superintendence of Monseigneur Lagrange.

Most people are acquainted with the general outline of the story of Vincent de Paul's life and works, but not too many of us in England know more of him than what is to be found in the 'Biographie Universelle,' or in the life edited by Mr. R. F. Wilson in 1873, although the foreign bibliography relating to the saint is extensive. It was therefore high time that the English-reading public should be possessed of a trustworthy work on this subject, and Father Brady, of the Congregation of the Mission, has done good service in translating for their benefit Bougaud's popular history; but it is to be regretted that he did not devote a few lines to the memory of the venerable author, whose eulogium he might have found in the preface to the 'Discours de Monseigneur Bougaud,' also edited by Monseigneur Lagrange.

Numerous histories of St. Vincent de Paul have, indeed, been published in all sizes and in many languages; but in truth, of really original lives of the saint there are but two—that published in 1664 under the name of Abelly, and one by Collet, which appeared in 1748. All the others are but reproductions, generally abridged from the two works just mentioned. Monseigneur Bougaud's history, like the others, rests mainly on Abelly, but we do not find any mention made of the fact that 'La Vie du Vénérable Serviteur de Dieu, Vincent-de-Paul,' attributed to Abelly, was, in reality, a *mémoire* drawn up by order of Almeras, the second Superior-General of the Mission, from notes made by Frère Ducourneau, St. Vincent's secretary, during the conferences at Saint Lazare, directly after the death of the founder, supplemented by memoranda collected by the first Sisters of Charity in their conferences during the lifetime of their great master. The whole of these materials appear to have been put together and edited by Frère Fournier, one of the missionaries, none of whom was permitted to publish any book whatever, by the express desire of their late superior. It was on this account that Fournier's MS. was printed under the name of Abelly, the Bishop of Rodez, who had been himself on intimate terms with St. Vincent de Paul.

Pierre Collet was, like Fournier, also a priest of the mission. A professed theologian and hagiographer, he was more particularly a zealous antagonist of the Jansenists. He took upon himself to follow up all traces of the life of St. Vincent and his works, and it is to his careful research that we owe the collection of numerous incidents connected with the labours of the saint. Since that time a large number of the letters of St. Vincent—now in the archives of the Lazarists—have been published, and undoubtedly the best modern standard work on the subject is the well-known 'St. Vincent de Paul: sa Vie, son Temps, ses Œuvres, son Influence,' by Abbé Maynard, published in 1860.

In the re-editing of Monseigneur Bougaud's history it appears that Monseigneur Lagrange had the assistance of a venerable Lazarist, Père Chevalier, in collating the text of the original passages quoted and in verifying the dates, &c. We cannot approve of Mr. Brady's method of not only abbreviating, but even altering the text of Monseigneur Lagrange's "avertissement,"

and thus, among other matters, omitting all mention of this Lazarist father's name. Indeed, the word "Lazarist" has, most unaccountably, been avoided throughout the translation, the name "Vincentian" being everywhere substituted for it. Thus we find "Vincentians" inserted in the title, to begin with; and in chap. vi. of the second volume may be found, in a succession of passages (pp. 223, 224, 226, 231, 232, 234), a similar misapplication of terms. For instance, Monseigneur Lagrange's note to the heading of this supplementary chapter, "Les documents contenus dans ce chapitre ont été empruntés aux 'Annales de la Congrégation de la Mission,' recueil publié par MM. les Lazaristes," is rendered, "The documents contained in this chapter have been borrowed from the 'Annals of the Congregation of the Mission,' a publication of the Vincentian Fathers." Again, "l'église des Lazaristes" is translated as "the Church of the Vincentians at Paris," "le supérieur général des Lazaristes" as "the Superior-General of the Vincentians," "la chapelle des prêtres de la Mission" as "the Chapel of the Vincentians," and so on.

The Irish predilections of the translator are easily discernible when, in quoting a portion of Cardinal Guibert's address to the missionaries, he renders "mais ces Belges, ces Suisses, ces Italiens, ces Allemands, ces Anglais," "but the Belgians, the Swiss, the Italians, the Germans, the English-speaking delegates"; whilst the invariable test of those shibboleths of transposed "shall" and "will," "should" and "would," also hints at the author's place of education. No one, in fact, but an Irishman could have been so careless as to miss the point of the following sentence:—

"Qui me dira le reste? L'un d'eux acheva: 'Præparationem cordis eorum audivit auris tua.' 'Dieu vous bénisse, Monsieur!' répondit le saint. C'était son remerciement ordinaire."

"Who will tell me the remainder?" One of them then said: 'Præparationem cordis eorum audivit auris tua.' 'Thank you, sir,' replied the Saint. This was his ordinary acknowledgment."

We could point out many other faults of translation, expression, and awkward style in paraphrasing; but enough has been said on this point.

Collet's antagonism to the Jansenists has already been noticed. In this jealousy he has been followed by Maynard, whilst Bougaud as well preserves the same tradition. When speaking of the splendid intervention of St. Vincent de Paul during the dreadful miseries caused by the wars of the Fronde, he writes:—

"Quand on fouille les documents à peine encore explorés des villes et des villages, les registres des corps de ville, les délibérations des chapitres et des paroisses, et qu'on se demande si personne n'est venu au secours de ces populations broyées par la guerre, la famine, et la peste, on trouve un nom, un seul, celui de Saint Vincent de Paul. Nous allons voir ce que peut faire un seul homme, quand le souffle de la vraie charité le possède et le soulève."

But M. Alphonse Feillet, in his masterly work 'La Misère au Temps de la Fronde,' published thirty years ago, has pointed out that the Jansenist Maignart de Bernières, Maître des Requêtes, was the precursor of Vincent de Paul in taking the initiative of

establishing the "assistance publique." A letter which M. Feillet quotes shows that "un changement s'était opéré dans la direction de l'assistance publique, et que, des mains de M. de Bernières et des jansénistes, l'œuvre était passée dans celles de Vincent de Paul et de ses congrégations."

The part taken by St. Vincent de Paul is so grand, so famous, that his biographers might well afford to be generous to those who have been overshadowed by his glory. M. de Broglie, in his excellent abridged life of St. Vincent de Paul, does allude to M. Feillet's mention of the Jansenists in connexion with the charitable movement of this date, but somewhat grudgingly, as he adds:—

"His conclusions, which do not appear to us to rest on very solid foundations, would nowise diminish, even were they proved, the preponderating, not to say exclusive share that cannot be fairly attributed to any one but Vincent de Paul, his missionaries, and his Daughters of Charity, in this wonderful outburst which, thanks to them alone, bore fruit, and was not an empty protestation or vain declamation."

Neither Monseigneur Bougaud nor the Prince de Broglie alludes in the slightest manner to the charitable works conducted by the Protestants during the same times of distress in France, which M. Feillet, with more strict impartiality, has recorded in his pages.

Miss Mildred Partridge's translation faithfully renders M. de Broglie's elegant writing, and in this respect is far superior to that of Mr. Brady. From the former we may conclude by quoting the passage in which the saint's characteristics are summed up:—

"Amongst all these ideal types of human nature, so different, sometimes so unlike in the unity of one common faith and love, St. Vincent de Paul will always remain one of those most in harmony with the French character, and also one of those who will be best understood, most loved and imitated by his compatriots. With his gaiety, his smiling *bonhomie*, which concealed a subtle intellect and a marvellous perspicacity and steadiness in view, with a comprehension of the new requirements brought about by the changes of time, with that passionate ardour and holy violence concealed under a moderation and gentleness, which in a certain sense only rendered them more salient, that perfect simplicity which nothing could disconcert, that goodness and warmth of heart which were moved by every kind of suffering and longed to alleviate it; finally, that unquenchable enthusiasm in well-doing which remained with him to the end, and under which he strove, not very successfully, to keep out of sight his heroic virtues, his severe austerities and the observance of humility, so deep as to alarm our weakness, Vincent de Paul is indeed the true son of that old land of France, which has produced so many saints, and, whatever men may do, will always remain so deeply Christian."

Industrial Cuba. By R. P. Porter. (G. P. Putnam's Sons.)

THE position of the author of this volume is a guarantee of value both for its facts and its conclusions. While urging the immediate need of economic measures of the most thoroughgoing and far-reaching kind, he by no means ignores the political problem; and while not concealing his own view—which is in favour of annexation—he candidly quotes authorities on the other

side. No pressure, he declares, will be brought to bear. "By the very nature of things there can be no forcible annexation to the nation representing the absolute liberties of the people"—an axiom which apparently does not apply in the Philippines. At all events, the American Government seems to be acting prudently in not pressing for a solution, and in endeavouring to gain the gratitude and confidence of the Cuban people by reconstructing on improved lines a society which has almost collapsed. In whole districts the population has been nearly wiped out by war and emigration, and important industries are consequently at a standstill. The export of sugar, for instance, has dwindled from a million tons yearly to one-fifth of that amount. And in this connexion we may see how entirely Cuba is dependent on the United States. They are her chief market, both for exports and imports, and the future of her great sugar industry depends not alone on an adequate labour supply, or even on the action of Germany in the beetroot question, but also on the customs policy of the States. Incidentally, too, we have surmises as to the degree in which the exigencies of American capital have influenced, and will continue to influence, events in Cuba.

Mr. Porter writes with a strong personal animus against the Spaniards. The negroes, he says, were worse treated in Cuba than anywhere else. But they had some important rights, as he admits; for instance, as to marriage; they were able also to change their masters, and to acquire land. At present the blacks in Cuba compare favourably with those of the States, and racial antipathy is much less marked. Our author also attributes the sanitary shortcomings of the Spaniard to moral obliquity. In describing the condition of the different towns he dwells with perhaps needless iteration on unsavoury details, which, after all, only denote a people some way behind our modern civilization and deteriorated by a tropical climate. The Americans, however, are doing excellent sanitary work, and it is to be hoped they will carry the people with them; but public flogging for breaches of their regulations, and the compulsory imposition of scavenger's work on the more respectable inhabitants, seem hardly conciliatory methods. The sanitary work, however admirable, is also not, as the author explains, altogether disinterested, for the death-rate in the towns is very high, and the mortality in the probable event of a large influx of unseasoned Americans and others would, the author believes, be appalling.

Mr. Porter describes at some length the tariff and other financial measures established provisionally by the American authorities, who have, he points out, disinterestedly refrained from any differential stipulations in favour of the United States. The book contains, besides, some useful tables of statistics and other information as to the resources of the island. Here is his description of an industry not generally known:—

"Asphaltum appears to be a very general product of the island and of the water along its shores.....At and near Cardenas the deposits are found in the bottom of the bay, and the method of securing it is peculiar. A shaft eighty feet or more in depth below the surface

extends into the sea-bottom; and into this the asphalt runs or filters. It is supposed that the supply is brought from the interior through the subterranean rivers which prevail in this locality,—from which, indeed, Cardenas gets its water supply. Over this shaft the ship is anchored, from her deck a heavy bar of iron attached to a rope is dropped, and the asphalt is broken from the sides of the shaft and falls to the bottom, where it is scooped up into a net and loaded into the vessel. As this work has been going on for years, and the asphalt replenishes itself constantly, it is fair to suppose that the run will go on for ever."

"The yam" is not "another and larger form of the sweet potato."

Louis XV. Intime et les Petites Maitresses. Par Comte Fleury. (Paris, Plon, Nourrit & Cie.)

COMTE FLEURY shows more research than discrimination when, regardless of his power of assimilation, he offers us *en masse* all the gossip about the royal harem that he can gather. Much of it is tedious, as, for instance, the genealogies and collateral connexions of obscure individuals; some incidents are of doubtful authenticity. Thus the outrageous insult by which the Comte d'Artois is here said to have driven the Comtesse de Forcalquier from Court could not have occurred if we may believe, with Dussieux, Le Grand d'Aussy, and others, that the presentation to royal personages of the water and basin for their after-dinner ablutions was a duty performed by gentlemen and not by ladies. Nevertheless the book has value. The rise of the Duc de Choiseul by his betrayal of his relative, Madame de Choiseul-Romanet, to his rival, Madame de Pompadour, is well told, as is also his acquisition of wealth by the foresight of his mistress, Madame de Gontaut, who on her death-bed bequeathed him in marriage to her twelve-year-old sister Mlle. Crozat, the heiress. Sixty pages is rather a large proportion to devote to Louis XV.'s dying moments, even though we are reminded that the smallpox which carried him off rendered a public funeral impossible, and thus saved France two million francs.

A less hackneyed theme is the career of some of the *petites maitresses* after they had fallen from their high estate. There is "the proud Vashiti," the Marquise de Coislin, disgraced by means of a ministerial ruse just as she had nearly superseded the Pompadour at the critical moment when the latter, in conjunction with Bernis, was engaged on that Austrian alliance which was to reverse the traditional policy of France. After a period of promiscuous gallantry, the fallen favourite presently found herself, with many of the fashionable world, involved in the bankruptcy of the Prince de Guéméné. When the Revolution came she evaded its dangers by wandering about La Vendée disguised as a servant. But she soon returned to Paris, where she enjoyed the intimacy of the Chateaubriands, was regarded as an oracle of *bon ton*, and, when verging on her hundredth year, discussed Louis XV.'s Court with Charles X. Even then, as in her youth, she had for rival in public interest Madame d'Esparbès, *ci-devant* mistress of Lauzun and of the Bien-Aimé, a woman who arranged her politics so cleverly that during

the Revolution, says Comte Fleury, "à peine son salon ouvert à ses amis se ferme-t-il pendant les jours dangereux." An exception to the usual rapacity of the *petites maitresses* is presented by one of the later favourites, the Dutch beauty Madame Pater, who married the Marquis de Champcenetz, Governor of the Tuileries. Having emigrated on the outbreak of the troubles, she offered to place 20,000 to 50,000 francs at the disposal of D'Artois, for, wrote she, "I owe all my fortune to his grandfather." We note that Comte Fleury's dates regarding this incident are rather confused: the event known as "the 10th of August" belongs to the year 1792, and therefore could not precede June, 1791. A contrast to these great ladies is found in "la belle Morphise," or Mlle. Murphy, of lowest origin. Having twitted Louis XV. about his "vieille coquette," i.e., the Pompadour, the younger favourite was promptly dismissed, liberally dowered, and married to M. de Beaufranchet. Surviving both him and a second husband, she is found during the Terror imprisoned in Ste. Pélagie; on her release, although by that time a sexagenarian, she married a young member of the Convention, to be divorced five years later, and to die in 1815. Comte Fleury holds that the General Beaufranchet who, distinguished by his ultra-republicanism, served in La Vendée, and was on duty at the execution of Louis XVI., was the legitimate issue of the Morphise's first marriage, and not, as has been asserted, the fruit of her royal amour. Mlle. de Romans may be taken as the chief representative of the lower *bourgeoisie* in Comte Fleury's catalogue. Although her son, the Abbé de Bourbon, was the only one of his bastards that Louis XV. ever recognized, Mlle. de Romans was not content, but aspired to get her child legitimized. Her attempts to this end, and her efforts to succeed Madame de Pompadour as *maitresse en titre*, so wearied the king that her five years of favour terminated in sudden disgrace, softened, however, by gifts and allowances yielding at least 4,000*l.* a year. Presently married to the Marquis de Cavanac, she appears again during the reign of Louis XVI. as a leader of fashion, the owner of a theatre conducted by her brother-in-law, and the paramour of another rising ecclesiastic, the Abbé de Boisgelin, an expectant bishop. Vainly did her husband protest and have an encounter with his rival, when poker and tongs were freely used as weapons by both. The Marquise's son, the Abbé de Bourbon, got his step-father exiled from Paris by a *lettre de cachet*, and whilst madame was made happy by a judicial separation, her lover retained his office. During the subsequent troubles she found refuge in Spain, but returned to die at Versailles under the Empire. The longevity of these gay ladies is certainly astonishing. As for her son the Abbé de Bourbon, he seems to have but indifferently repaid the care bestowed on him by Louis XVI. and the aunts of the latter, the Mesdames de France. Dazzled at first by the prospect of a cardinal's hat and of the bishopric of Bayeux, then weary of waiting for the fulfilment of such expectations, the young man betook himself to Rome and to the kindly favour which Cardinal de Bernis

eagerly accorded him in response to the entreaties of Madame Louise, Louis XV.'s Carmelite daughter. But when her *protégé* died at Naples of smallpox in 1787, penniless and neglected, Madame Louise, writing to Bernis, consoles herself with the convenient belief that "the Lord has removed the poor little abbé for reasons of mercy which I cannot regret." The fact is she was already engaged in promoting the ecclesiastical advancement of another of her father's bastards, Benoît le Duc, eventually Abbé of St. Martin de Paris, and son of Mlle. Tiercelin, one of the most extravagant of Louis's transitory mistresses. When in 1789 Favras, condemned as a counter-revolutionary conspirator, mounted the scaffold to pay the penalty of his trust in the Comte de Provence, it was the Abbé le Duc who appeared by the victim's side, exhorting him to preserve silence to the end, "to submit to that which the King cannot prevent, and to remember that you have saved the whole royal family." In January, 1793, the abbé is found at work once more in the royal cause, and begging the Convention that the body of Louis Capet might be delivered to him for burial by the side of his father at Sens. The request was refused. But we have no intention of extracting all the interesting items to be found in a volume which can only be enjoyed by the reader who can skip judiciously. The annotations are abundant, whilst the index, though it might be more correct, is most acceptable.

The South Country Trout Streams. By G. A. B. Dewar. "The Angler's Library." (Lawrence & Bullen.)

A STRONG love of the country and of rustic pursuits has obviously set in, and led to a corresponding outpouring of books of the sort. Fishing—especially fly fishing—has captivated an enormous and ever-increasing body of enthusiasts, and should the 'Bibliotheca Piscatoria' of Westwood and Satchell, published sixteen years ago, ever be brought up to the level of the day, it would already require a volume twice its present size. Though some of this additional matter consists mainly of reproduction, as is the way with too much angling literature, the rest is writing often of a high standard. An immense quantity also of ephemeral disquisitions on angling perishes week by week in the sporting newspapers which give them birth. The development of angling literature in the next century bids fair at the present rate to be enormous.

A good map would have been a welcome addition to Mr. Dewar's book; but readers can at all events be grateful for a good index. It falls naturally into two divisions: angling with the artificial fly in general, the pleasures of river fishing, the state of the southern rivers from pollution, over-fishing, and the like, and of these subjects an angler will wish for more. Secondly, the author takes county by county, from Kent to Cornwall, and traces its trout streams, with their most appropriate lures, the most convenient villages for quarters, and the owners of each fishery. It is sad, in the interests of trout fishers who possess no aristocratic relations, to find page after page of these streams belonging either to clubs

or to owners who preserve rigidly. Yet no respectable angler need despair of now and then obtaining permission to fish if it be requested in a gentlemanly manner of many among these riparian owners. We have seen and enjoyed much kindly feeling of this kind. Of course it is unreasonable to expect a day's fishing in a celebrated stream when the May-fly is "up," and the owner's house is filled with a large party. It stands to common sense, too, that if the proprietor allowed all who wish to angle in a popular stream to do so, there would soon be no fish left for any one to catch. Apart from such cases, however, angling undoubtedly fosters kindness and unselfishness. Few benefits are so appreciated on the part of the impecunious angler or bring such a pleasure to a proprietor as the permission for a day's angling. This second part of Mr. Dewar's book is too brief and concise. To be useful the information should have been expanded. Such passages as the following savour too much of the guide-book:—

"The Exe is 'a most beautiful river,' says Skrine, 'rapid in its origin, but soon disporting itself in a tranquil stream amidst verdant meadows, and surrounded by a well-cultivated district.' The stream takes its rise in mid-Exmoor, in a lonely and rugged district, and enters Devonshire near Bampton. It receives the Haddes, which Lord Carnarvon preserves, above Dulverton, and the far larger Barle at Exbridge; and between this point and Tiverton the Brushford brook, Bell brook and Brampton brook flow in, while the Loman joins at Tiverton. The next important points, following the stream downwards, are Bickleigh, Silvertown, Thorverton, Bramford Speke and Cowley Bridge."

It is only just, however, to Mr. Dewar to acknowledge that his information on the different fisheries is correct. The Leach, for instance, much of which is in Lord de Mauley's hands, is rightly characterized. So, too, with the Devonshire Exe, which always seems to us the prince of Devon trout streams. The size of its fish, method of fishing, flies to be used, and hotels at which to stay, are all clearly stated. Yet another famous Devon river, the Otter, is fairly estimated, and flies for it and other information carefully given. Mr. Dewar's facts are thus unimpeachable, and the book may be safely recommended to wandering anglers. It is to be hoped that a companion volume for northern streams may soon be published to complete the enumeration of English trout rivers.

The author's two groups of flies—one for dry-fly fishing on chalk streams and the other for the more impetuous waters of moorland districts—will be found useful. He is quite correct, also, in tracing the ruin of so many once excellent trout streams to chemical pollution and want of water, a deficiency due to excessive drainage and the freaks of millers in holding it up in ponds. He afterwards suggests two more—shortness of supply of flies (due, in all probability, to droughts), and the interference of water companies. Most anglers would be astonished at the large-sized fish vouched for by the author. On the Nadder, for instance, in Wilts, he thinks trout above Tisbury would average 1½ lb., while on the Test the records of the Houghton Club show that the average weight of both trout and grayling has been as nearly as possible 2 lb. On the Marquis

of Ailesbury's preserves in the Savernake river the average weight is the same. Mr. Dewar reminds us of the huge trout weighing 16 lb. 2 oz. which was captured in the Itchen in 1888, and that, thanks to the irony of fate, by a rustic armed with a plain hazel rod and a minnow; but we venture to doubt concerning the Otter fish killed in 1896, and said to weigh 5½ lb. After fishing that river for a quarter of a century we have never known one of more than 2 lb., and then only a single fish.

Full information is imparted in these pages concerning that mysterious yet excellent Devon trout-fly the "blue upright," which may be vainly sought in manuals of entomology. A good deal of this book has special interest for dry-fly fishermen, and a third method of fishing (besides dry and wet fly) will be new to many. This consists in fishing with one large sunk fly, such as an alder or a Wickham, over a "tailing" trout, or in rough water or during a high wind which puts dry-fly fishing out of the question. Indeed, there is much that is novel and attractive in Mr. Dewar's book, which is well worth the consideration of those who enjoy the problems of trout fishing. The furthest point west at which the chalk crops out, however, he should know is Beer Head, in Devon, and not St. Reine's Hill, in Dorset. And he twice tells the well-worn story of apprentices stipulating that they shall not be fed too often with salmon, once connecting it with the Thames, and once asserting that "there are old indentures still existing which stipulate that apprentices at Axminster shall not be fed on salmon more than twice a week." This assertion has often been questioned, and no such indentures have ever been produced. These are small blemishes, however, in a pleasant book, redolent of spring and the trout stream.

Li Livres du Gouvernement des Rois: a Thirteenth-Century French Version of Egidio Colonna's De Regimine Principum. Now first published, with Introduction and Notes, by S. K. Molenaar. (Columbia, University Press; New York, Macmillan.)

THE student of mediæval politics has long been familiar with the Latin original of this work, reprinted as it was over and over again during the infancy of typography; but though several versions exist, none of them is in print. The 'Mirour Exempleire,' printed at Paris in 1517 by Eustace, though attributed to Gilles of Rome (Colonna) on the title-page, bears no relation to his book, and is a translation of the 'Liber de Administratione Principum,' a later work, written, according to Mr. Gilson, by Jean de Marigny, Archbishop of Rouen, in the early part of the fourteenth century. It is pleasant, therefore, to welcome an edition of the text of the French translation, and the more because its form suggests that this volume is but the first of a series of such publications.

Dr. Molenaar has added to his text an introduction and notes. The introduction uses once again the article on Colonna in the 'Histoire Littéraire,' with a few remarks from other sources, supported by a list of authorities consulted, covering three pages. It seems unnecessary to have read

Rashdall and Denifle when one has no more understanding of the teaching of the mediæval university than is shown on p. xvii, and indeed the list, taken in conjunction with the result produced, irresistibly recalls the well-known remark of another American scholar on mastering the alphabet. Lists of editions should never be taken from the 'Hist. Litt.' without verification—in this case Nos. 1 and 2 are the same book (Hain, *107, 129 f.). There are, too, curious gaps in an obviously omnivorous reading. Dr. Molenaar seems to be unaware that Hoccleve's 'Regiment of Princes' has been issued by the E.E.T.S., yet he has read the thesis of a German dissertation-hunter who "discovered" the sources of the poem more than four centuries after Hoccleve had written them in full on the margin of his manuscript. The notes are valuable, and contain some remarkable instances of editorial ability, but are disfigured by such remarks as those on p. 432, which might pass as a professorial aside, meant to relieve the tedium of a lecture, but are something like impertinence in a work addressed to scholars.

The part of the introduction which deals with the manuscripts of the work is by far the most unsatisfactory. The editor seems unfamiliar with their use (he prints letters marked for omission in his text), and he has been most unfortunate in the source from which he drew his account of the English MSS. Eg. 811 is not a manuscript of this version at all; Add. 22,274 belongs to an expanded variety; and Harl. 4385 (early fifteenth century) is attributed to Henry de Ganchy; 15 E. vi., the famous Shrewsbury book, is not even mentioned. Of these MSS., Harl. 4385 (H.) most nearly represents the original. It is rather difficult, too, to understand the advantage of the editor's rule of printing a line of the manuscript in a line of type, especially as he does not carry it out uniformly; and it is a pity that he has not marked his extensions of abbreviations. We should have been glad of some reason for splitting up "ainzne" into "ainz ne," and of some authority for the use of "cen" for "ceun." Lastly, we have to remonstrate with Dr. Molenaar on the extreme difficulty of making any reference from the notes to the text.

When all this is said, however, we have to congratulate the editor on a solid and valuable bit of work. Space would fail us to follow him through his notes, and we shall be compelled to notice them very briefly. P. 3, 7, we do not think the reading, which is found in all MSS., a scribal error, but a free translation, bearing the gloss in mind. P. 20, 5, H. reads "les non sachans." P. 28, 38, H. omits "mangeurs." P. 33, 27 seq., should read "largesce de fere petit despens, l'autre magnificence, l'autre vertu de grant cuer, l'autre amour d'onneur, l'autre humilite, l'autre benigne, l'autre amablete, l'autre verite." P. 35, 18, the omission of "plus" is a scribal error. P. 38, 14, insert "si" before "est." P. 41, 3, "quer" = "car." P. 48, 2, "devoie" = "devee," not "defaille," &c. P. 49, 20, there is no lacuna here; omit "et" before "fet," and read "a" for "en." P. 50, 39, for "maladies" read "eaux." P. 53, 25, for "nies" H. reads "nefs." P. 55, 38, for "comme" read "bonne"; H. reads "suivre,"

and so in l. 40. P. 58, 19, H. reads "silz," 20, H. reads "ilz seront bestiaux," and "semlent"; 29, read "ils ne vont mie selon," &c. P. 60, 7, period after "largement." P. 61, 3, H. reads "et en gardant on les acroist." P. 62, 9, H. reads "des ij, aux richesses de celui qui." P. 63, 3, for "quer" read "que"; 4, for "qui" read "quen"; 9, "ne" is not required in the sense; 29, "dont" should be "Dont." P. 73, 30, the correction here is needless; H. reads "esprouver sa vie se il ne lui." P. 74, 14, omit "et les"; 16, a bad blunder; read "si comme Senèque dist"; 17, read "achatier que en appert prier," &c. P. 79, 2, H. reads "esmuet." P. 80, 11, the insertion of "enseigne" shows a certain want of familiarity with French mediæval literature; 33, H. reads "quele chose elle doit estre, nous prouverons par ij raisons que les roys et les princes doivent estre humbles." P. 82, 30, "mariage" is found in all MSS. P. 83, 21, H. also reads "lui." P. 87, 28, H. inserts "qui"; 32, H. reads "n'est." P. 88, 25, read "blans"; 36, for "seul" read "foible." P. 275, 23, read "en droit foy quideroit." &c. P. 283, 36, for "regarder" read "savoir si." P. 329, 24, read "tormentes et des secrez," &c. P. 358, 27, H. reads "Grece." P. 360, 20, H. reads "Grece." P. 413, 22, H. reads "Et doit leu diligement saporvri au chastel vin plain et vin aigre pour boire a ceulx dedens, pour ce que par trop boire eaus ils ne devienngnet trop foibles."

The student will now be in a position to judge for himself of the value of the editor's work. For our part, we offer him again our hearty congratulations upon it. But at the same time we venture to think that the edition clearly points out the inadvisability of printing a mediæval work from one MS. only, save in the most exceptional circumstances.

NEW NOVELS.

The Black Terror: a Romance of Russia. By John K. Leys. (Sampson Low & Co.)

THIS is a novel of the orthodox sensational type—a story of Nihilists, spies, and detectives such as would have delighted Edgar Poe. It is, however, almost too great a flight of the imagination for the reader to believe that the Nihilists and Anarchists of Russia have an island belonging to them, one of the Hebrides or closely adjoining, in which they incarcerate their persecutors when they have kidnapped them. The hero of the tale is an Englishman, a certain Mr. Heath, who is employed in executing repairs of the ancestral castle—which can hardly have been a "feudal" one, as it is called—of a certain Prince Kropenski. How the prince is spirited away from his estate and is found a prisoner in the island; how he is shot by a Nihilist with the mysterious name of Von Mitschka; and how Heath marries his daughter, the fair Princess Irene, is duly told in this sensational romance, which can only be considered a caricature of Russian life and Russian institutions. We expect shortly to see it advertised as "forbidden by the censorship in Russia." We must not forget to add that Heath personifies the Emperor Alexander, who is kidnapped and held in captivity till he has granted a constitution and other institutions to Russia. All the evils under

which the country suffers are to be cured by a stroke of the pen. The poor autocrat is held responsible for any hitch in the political machine, however trifling its character.

Siren City. By Benjamin Swift. (Methuen & Co.)

THERE is a pleasanter (though still by no means a pleasant) tone in Benjamin Swift's latest story than in two previous publications from the same hand, entitled 'The Destroyer' and 'The Tormentor.' There is still the same stiff and staccato style, and occasionally an almost sour reflection occurs in the course of the writer's remarks; but these and other minor defects are more than compensated by the pleasure of reading a tolerably constructed narrative with good local colour, and composition that shows neither weakness nor want of training. The city to which the title of the book relates is Naples, and the time of the story is indicated in a foot-note as "the period when Crispi was first coming into power"; and the nature of the story may be briefly indicated by mentioning the names and descriptions of the leading *dramatis personæ*. First there is Rebecca Morpeth, who is soon married to a Neapolitan, against her father's will. The Italian is minutely depicted, as also are his friends and surroundings, and ultimately the Carmine prison at Naples, in which he dies. It may be suspected that the story was written to give a place to the detailed account of the prison life, which the writer says he was enabled to study by permission of the prefect of the city. The visit to the prison does not seem to have occurred during the time to which the story relates. Other characters, English and Italian, occupy less prominent places on the stage; among them one lady, a young English widow, stands out as being a clever study. The guardsman, who loves and ultimately marries Rebecca, is a more conventional figure. The author now and then alights on a successful apophthegm, an instance of which may be found in his description of love as "a sort of moral feudalism in which great passions are to be given in fee." Some hesitation may be felt in approving the position occupied by the first chapter. It deals with a portion of the story occurring when more than two-thirds of it has been achieved, and there seems little reason for displacing this particular section. Were such displacement necessary, another portion might have been preferably selected for the purpose. The book tends to excite interest in the author's work as a novelist.

For a God Dishonoured. By the Author of ***** (Long.)

THERE is a confused medley of thoughts, words, and subjects in this wild story. The "comrades" who live in the "mansions of the Just," and advocate domestic independence, women's rights, and vegetarianism, possess a curious and miscellaneous assortment of ideas. It is hard to realize the intelligence of a writer who says of the heroine, "That which Clothilde laid at the feet of Alwyn [her would-be seducer] was the adulation which is often given by her sex to individual members of the priesthood." The lady's husband understands

the case better, for he gives Alwyn "some of the most intoxicating wine in his cellars"; the lover is repulsed, and thereupon dies a suspicious death. Still Clothilde has other ambitions to serve. She impersonates her husband, who is a peer, in the House of Lords; she inherits a peerage "in her own right," and dressed in peer's robes presents herself at the House—and dies of heart disease immediately afterwards. Some of the expressions made use of in the book are very poor. We read of "gelid gusts," of a silence that "palpitated," of "a revelation of inspiration," of a "semi-detached marriage-system," and other inexplicable terms. The story must be regarded as unsatisfactory and immature.

A Son of the State. By W. Pett Ridge. (Methuen & Co.)

THE fourth volume of Messrs. Methuen's sixpenny novels, "never before published in book form," contains the history of a boy whose education and training are carried out at the expense of the taxpayer, and the descriptions of life in various institutions are carefully studied and, no doubt, accurately written out. Though not remarkable for any strong sense of humour, Mr. Pett Ridge's writing is nearly always graphic and interesting, and his narrative of a London boy's life in a quasi-reformatory and training-ship might have been prolonged beyond the limits of "the average six-shilling novel," which is the size of the volumes constituting the series. Messrs. Methuen's enterprise promises well, and includes excellent fiction.

DANTE BOOKS.

UNLIKE the literary language which Dante sought, and of which he wrote that "redolent in qualibet civitate nec cubat in ulla," the Società Dantesca Italiana has a lair in all the chief cities of the kingdom. Founded at Florence in 1888, it soon had corresponding branches in other places, and began to work seriously at a critical edition of all Dante's writings. So far only Prof. Rajna's 'De Vulgari Eloquentia' has appeared; but we are promised more. Milan, though it had made some efforts to start a Dante Society of its own in former years, was late in giving its adhesion to the wider association, and its committee was not formed till 1896. In 1898 the Milanese branch had the advantage of hearing a course of lectures from some of the most distinguished Dante scholars in Italy, and these have now been published in a pretty little volume, for the benefit of other students, by the firm of Hoepli, of Milan, under the title *Con Dante e per Dante*. They are much above the average of Italian Dante literature, though not wholly devoid of two of its most conspicuous features—verbosity and ignorance of what has been done in other countries; but all are interesting and suggestive. Several are on historical subjects, and these, perhaps, are the best. Peter de Vineà (Signor Novati, perhaps somewhat too dogmatically, considering how far back the form is found, condemns "de Vineis" as a "bad use") is sympathetically depicted. There is nothing in the paper—except, it may be, the definite acceptance of Samminiato "dei Tedeschi" as the scene of Peter's suicide—particularly new to those who have read, for instance, Mr. Kingston-Oliphant's 'Life of Frederick II.'; but the story is pleasantly retold, and it is made abundantly clear, if any one wants convincing, that Dante felt nothing but esteem for Peter. Signor Scherillo on Manfred is very similar, except that he touches upon what we do not remember to have seen noticed

before, the subsequent fortunes of the sons whom the last Hohenstaufen hero left at the mercy of his pitiless conqueror. Frederick, the second son, after thirty-five years of prison, escaped, and a letter appears to be extant—though we wish Signor Scherillo had given a more precise reference—in which his kinsman Edward I. recommends him (it need not be said, without result) to the favourable consideration of Pope Clement V. The eldest, Henry—of whom his contemporary Villani appears to have heard vague rumours, but no more—lingered in captivity till 1318, when he died a man of fifty-four. "It makes one shudder to think," says Signor Scherillo,

"that while the poet was dedicating to historical infamy those who had pursued with their hate the last Swabian king, a yet more cowardly crime was being slowly consummated on the last innocent scion of that tragic race."

Signor L. Rocca treats of 'Matelda.' Let us hope it is an omen of the rise of a saner school of criticism in Italy that he is content to go back to the almost universal traditional interpretation which sees in the graceful guardian of the terrestrial Paradise the glorified figure of the great countess who aided Gregory VII. to bring the Emperor to his knees. The objections that have been made to this view are for the most part of the feeblest and most *sanguine* kind; Signor Rocca himself does not, we think, quite see how feeble.

What value did the Humanists set upon Dante? is a question which Signor V. Rossi discusses at some length. He thinks that there was more admiration for him in Renaissance times than is generally supposed. We are inclined to believe that the common view is right. Sometimes, no doubt, an honest pedant like Landino would recognize a greatness which he could not comprehend, and do his best to honour it by interminable and futile "exposition," or a somewhat kindred genius, like Michael Angelo, would show in a rugged, nervous sonnet or two that he did comprehend it. But the spirit of the age was the other way. How could the delineator of Malebolge be really appreciated by a generation whose days were spent mainly in qualifying for that place of abode? or what sympathy could there be between the lover of Beatrice and the hangers-on of Sforzas and Borgias? At the best his seriousness shamed their frivolity. One sees the want of sympathy even in Petrarch. There is all the Renaissance spirit in his sneer at the poet who was admired by "dyers, tavern-keepers, butchers, and the like." Signor del Lungo, in his lecture on 'Dante and Florence,' so far as we can make out from his tremendous sentences—two to the page on an average, but we have found one of twenty-six lines—seems also to think that Humanism was a benefit to society, and the Italian, more especially the Medicean, influence a blessing to France. Also he gets in a good deal of what the Piper in the 'Bothie' would have called "his eternal political humbug." However, he does recognize that contact with France has not been advantageous to the Italian language; a fact of which this volume, alas! gives evidence enough.

The feeling for nature in Dante is a subject that had been well treated of in English, at any rate, before Signor Zuccante took it in hand. We do not know that he adds much to what has been said; and he rather darkens counsel by mixing up the metaphysical and the æsthetic conceptions of "nature," as when he makes the prohibition of the study of Aristotle's works on natural history in the early Middle Ages responsible in some way for the neglect of the poetical sentiment of natural beauty. The decay and revival of this sentiment cannot be considered apart from the eclipse of poetry generally which prevailed, roughly speaking, from 500 to 1200 A.D. It is a little amusing, in view of a frequently recurring topic of newspaper lamentation, to find that, in this writer's

opinion, "Florence has again become the seat of all that is beautiful and noble, such as Dante in his heart held dear"—including, we suppose, the new boulevards and the road up to Samminiato.

Signor Giacosa concludes the series with a paper on 'Light in the Divine Comedy.' He touches on the curious, if not very important question, By what light did Dante see in hell, where he expressly tells us that it was all dark? and comes to the conclusion that, like the "Scin Lecca" of Bulwer's novel, the spirits possessed a sort of phosphorescence of their own. Oddly enough, he seems to have missed the best bit of evidence in favour of this view; we mean the rather obscure passage 'Par.' ix. 70 sqq., where it is explained that the spirits in heaven show their joy by increase of brightness, "but below, the shade darkens as the mind is sad." But nothing of this is mentioned in that part of the poem where it might be expected.

We congratulate Dr. Scartazzini very heartily on the completion of his *Enciclopedia Dantesca* (Milan, Hoepli), none the less because we do not feel quite sure that he does not rank us among the "critici malevoli," from whom, nevertheless, he admits that he has learnt something. We can assure him that no feeling like ill-will ever entered for a moment into any criticisms of his work upon which we may have ventured. We recognize most fully his claims to the gratitude of all Dante students; only we regret that, owing, it would seem, to over-haste, he allows much of his work to go out in so undigested a state that his great learning does not have a fair chance. In our notices of former instalments of the 'Enciclopedia' instances in plenty have been adduced; but one or two more may be given from that now under consideration. Take, for example, the article 'Semiramide.' All that was wanted was a line or two to say who Semiramis was, and a quotation of three or four lines from Orosius to show whence Dante obtained his knowledge of her story and the very terms he uses in his allusion to it, and incidentally to set at rest a somewhat trivial question of reading. But what do we find? Four pages filled with the various forms, more or less curious and disgusting, into which the older commentators have distorted the story; the quotation from Orosius given both in Latin and in Italian; and a reference, ten lines long, to Justin, prefaced by the remark that Dante does not appear to have read him! An analysis of the libretto of Rossini's opera, with a few bars of the overture, would have made the thing quite complete.

Or again, to take an historical example, for which such a name as "San Vittore, Ugo da," will serve. The form that an article like this should take is plain enough; first, a reference to the passage or passages in which the name occurs; then a succinct account of what is known of the person, followed by a bibliography of his works, if an author, and a list of authorities from whom the student who wishes for more details can obtain them. We do not want these various heads of information shot down in a confused heap—the reference to 'Par.' xii. 133 is dropped casually into the middle of the article!—and obscured by extracts from early commentaries, blundering away one after another.

Perhaps a dictionary is not the best place for the discussion or decision of controverted questions; but readers have at least the right to ask that if the author does express an opinion, he should not vary it within the limits of an article. Under "Spada" we have, properly enough, a reference to the curious phrase in which Dante speaks of certain heretics as being "like swords to the Scriptures, in rendering straight faces crooked." Dr. Scartazzini begins by saying that this means "mutilate the Scriptures, as a sword mutilates a handsome face." Then, after giving, according to his wont,

extracts from many commentators, and quoting with approval Lombardi's rejection of the older view that the allusion was to the distorted reflection in a polished sword-blade, he winds up by arguing in favour of this very view, and, so far as one can make out, giving his adhesion to it. Herein he is probably right; but he might let his readers know which horse he means to back definitively. Such open hedging destroys all confidence in his judgment.

Dr. Scartazzini's etymologies are as wild as ever. He thinks nothing of giving "secondo alcuni" a derivation of *trastullare* (verb) from *trastulli* (!), and for *trastullo* (sb.) three derivations differing from this and all inconsistent with each other, two of them, moreover, being absolutely rejected by Diez, to whom he refers. He seems, indeed, quite unaware that etymology is a science, having its rules, or that a word can no more have two derivations than two straight lines can have a common segment. Which being so, he had better have let this branch of the subject alone.

Miss Constance Blount's *Some Similes from the Paradiso of Dante Alighieri* (Chapman & Hall) belongs to a class of books which put the conscientious reviewer in a dilemma. He does not want to speak harshly of work that must have cost a certain amount of honest labour and involved a pretty close study of a masterpiece of literature; yet he cannot conceal from himself that when the work is done it is absolutely useless to any living soul, and that the labour might have been expended with much more profit to the worker if the study had been conducted on other lines. In the time that it must have taken Miss Blount to put together this rather elementary abstract of the 'Paradiso,' with such enlightening marginal headings as the following, selected from one page: "Ignorant Fishermen," "Swords," "Corn," "Plum Tree," "Ship," "Saints," "Sinners," she might, for instance, by looking in the right places, have found out something to illustrate some of the still outstanding obscurities of the poem; perhaps even the "Swords," which are no other than the weapons as to the purport of which Dr. Scartazzini, as we have said, cannot make up his mind. On the same page, too, are a couple of bad blunders in translation, which consultation of no more recondite an authority than Cary would have saved. To students, as we have explained, the book is practically useless; whereas, with a little more trouble, it might have had a certain value as a running abstract. Such a passage as canto xxii. 139-144, for instance, could have been made practically intelligible in no more words than are used by Miss Blount in reproducing and deepening its obscurity: "He sees, too, the daughter of Latona without the shadow; Hyperion's son, too, he sees, and near to him are Dion [!] and Mercury." Perhaps, however, she was not conscious that any explanation was needed; in which case we fear that, so far from being qualified to distribute even crumbs of instruction, she has yet to learn the right method of seeking them for herself. Of all writers that ever wrote, Dante is the one who least repays perfunctory study.

TRANSLATIONS.

The Diary of a Condemned Man. By Alfred Hermann Fried. Translated from the German by S. van Straalen. (Heinemann.)—This book is apparently the authentic diary of a man condemned to death for murder. The object of its publication is, by arousing sympathy with the sorrows of the condemned man, to stimulate a feeling against capital punishment. It fails in its object, partly because the man alienates all sympathy by his whining self-pity. He is very sorry for himself, and very indignant at the barbarity of society for executing him; but he wastes very little sorrow on the fate of the man whom he has murdered. The book is almost

nauseous from beginning to end for the mawkish and unmanly complaints of the criminal, and the only thing one can say for him is that it is a pity he was not put out of his misery sooner. Capital punishment will not be abolished for such arguments as this; indeed, one almost feels glad that such a creature was effectively prevented from producing children like him; for he was married, and he ends by urging his wife to kill and poison society generally, but to do it stealthily.

Prof. Hieronimus. Translated from the Danish of Amalie Skram by Alice Stronach and G. B. Jacobi. (Lane.)—Fru Skram is one of the hardest representatives of the naturalistic school in the North; indeed, there are some of her admirers who boast that she could give points to Zola himself if required. This, so far as we are aware, is the first time that she has appeared in an English dress, and although 'Prof. Hieronimus' is nothing like so powerful as 'Hellemyrsfolket,' and other of her stories which we forbear to mention, it is none the less convincing because it is perfectly decent. It also possesses a strong personal interest. It is supposed to relate the author's own experiences in a private lunatic asylum controlled by an eminent psychiatric expert, whose altogether extraordinary influence over every one who comes within his ken will be quite inexplicable to the readers of the story. The chief impression we carry away of the omnipotent Hieronimus is that of a mean and crafty tyrant, who deliberately irritates and ill-uses those of his patients who do not cringe to him. Of anything like power or striking individuality—qualities which one might naturally expect to find in a man in such a unique position of trust—there is no trace. Either Fru Skram's characterization is here for once at fault, or she is intentionally satirizing a person she detests. On the other hand, the horrors of the private asylum described in these pages are real enough, and if only a tithe of the abuses and irregularities described be true, it is high time the Folkthing amended the existing lunacy laws in Denmark which make such outrages possible. The whole narrative seems to bear the impress of truth, so vividly realistic is it in every detail. The translation, we may add, is far above the average.

The Miracles of Antichrist. Translated from the Swedish of Selma Lagerlöf by P. B. Flach. (Gay & Bird.)—This is an uncommonly good translation of the masterpiece (so far) of the already eminent Swedish novelist Fröken Lagerlöf. It consists, for the most part, of a series of brilliant and picturesque character-sketches of peasant life in the Etna district of Sicily; and Mongibello (to give the volcano its local name) has a personality of its own and dominates the whole narrative. A quite unobtrusive moral purpose underlies the whole story, or rather collection of stories, viz., the reconciliation of Socialism and Catholicism, which are represented as unnecessarily hostile forces. Antichrist from the author's point of view is the former of these forces. The book has already established its author's reputation in her native land, and should also make her popular here, for it abounds with good things and is inspired throughout by a contagious optimism. There are some marvellous descriptions of scenery, as was to be expected from an author who has the rare gift of minute observation combined with soaring fancy and a truly poetic instinct. On the other hand, we notice (with surprise in this case) that lack of humour which is characteristic of nearly all contemporary Scandinavian fiction.

Russian Reader: Lermontov's Modern Hero. With English Translation and Biographical Sketch by Ivan Nestor-Schnurmann. (Cambridge, University Press.)—There are so few available books for Englishmen desirous of studying Russian that we feel a natural inclina-

tion to welcome Mr. Nestor-Schnurmann's 'Reader.' We will also readily acknowledge that he has appended to the Russian original a clear translation, and in his "Biographical Sketch" has given some information on the character and writings of Lermontof. We do not, however, altogether agree with his opinions, and æsthetic criticism seems to us rather out of place in a work of this kind. The accents, a great difficulty of the language, are carefully marked throughout. We disagree, however, entirely with the plan of Mr. Schnurmann's work, and we will frankly give our reasons for doing so. This is the first "reader" in any language, so far as our experience goes, where the help to the student takes the form of giving a literal translation on opposite pages of the book which he is to study. Surely such a method is self-destructive. What we acquire so easily is rapidly forgotten. It is the very trouble which we take in looking words out in a dictionary which causes us to learn the language. Most students of Greek and Latin will remember how little really their "cribs" did for them in their boyhood. And yet we have Mr. Schnurmann speaking of the "waste of time and labour" in properly working at a language. Surely among the "busy men of the diplomatic or military services" there must be some who wish to understand the principles of the language they are studying. It seems a pity that a rich and finely constructed language like Russian should be taught—and at Cambridge, a home of sound philology—in such a slipshod fashion. Finally, even if we admit, which we do not, that 'A Modern Hero' is the best work which Mr. Schnurmann could have chosen, by adhering to one book throughout the learner has no means of mastering specimens of different styles. Would it not have been better to begin, say, with two or three stories of heroic times from Karamzin's history; to have given an extract or so from Gogol, Tourguénief, and Tolstoi; and even a few pieces of poetry, a fable of Krylof, a lyric of Pushkin, and things of the kind? Where, too, are the grammatical foot-notes we might well have expected? There must be difficulties in grammar to be explained. We hope sincerely that Mr. Schnurmann will atone for this book by one on more scholarly lines, and more worthy of the University of Cambridge. We had thought that the heresy was long since dead that modern languages are only worthy of being acquired in a rough-and-ready and gossiping manner. Least of all should Russian have such treatment.

SYRIAC AND HEBREW LITERATURE.

The Palestinian Syriac Lectionary of the Gospels. Re-edited from two Sinai MSS. and from P. de Lagarde's Edition of the *Evangelium Hierosolymitanum* by Agnes S. Lewis and Margaret D. Gibson. (Kegan Paul & Co.)—Up to 1892 only one codex (styled A) of the Palestinian Syriac Lectionary was known to exist. This was the Vatican MS. which had been described by Assemani, and edited first by Count Miniscalchi Erizzo (1864), and subsequently by Lagarde (published, after his death, in 1892). But almost simultaneously with the appearance of the latter edition a codex of the same lectionary (styled B) was found by Mrs. Lewis in the convent of St. Catherine on Mount Sinai. In the succeeding year Dr. Rendel Harris discovered a third codex (C) in the same convent. The date of A is A.D. 1030, of B 1104 (if calculated by the Constantinopolitan era of the Creation), and of C (by the same era) 1118. The plan adopted in the present edition of the lectionary is to take the text of B as a basis, and to give the variants from A and C in the left and right margins respectively. This course is, in the present state of our knowledge, the best that could have been adopted, for the construction of a critical text will have to be delayed until an exhaustive study of all the extant

materials has been made. We must own that, after a first glance at parts of the introduction, we were disposed to think lightly of the edition before us; for much that we saw there is merely sketchy, and can hardly rank as in any sense a serious contribution to the science of the subject. The presence of some misprints in the parts at which we looked first also predisposed us to pass an unfavourable verdict on the book. It was, therefore, with a certain amount of misgiving that we began to test the correctness of the lectionary by collating passages in Lagarde's edition of the Vatican text with the variants given in the left margin of the present edition; but we are glad to be able to say that the book came out well from the ordeal. The parts collated proved correct, no variant having been omitted, and all entries appearing in perfectly correct form. We have also collated the contents of the two photographic facsimiles (one from B, and the other from C) with the printed text, and we have discovered the omission of only one variant from Codex C (רִיבְלִין בִּיבְלִין), manifestly a scribe's error. We are, therefore, now disposed to consider the edition as trustworthy for purposes of further study and research. If the codices B and C had been within reach, it would have been our duty to test a sufficiently large number of passages in the printed text, for the value of the edition lies, of course, in the readings of these two codices, and not in those of the already well-known Vatican MS.; but as the originals remained on Mount Sinai, we must go by the evidence before us, and this, as we have shown, has proved favourable so far as the passages collated are concerned. With regard to the dates, already mentioned, which are now assigned to B and C, Mrs. Lewis explains in a note on p. xii that the mistake as to these which she made in 'Studia Sinaitica,' No. 1, "probably arose from a dispute" which she had "with Father Galakteen about the date of the Creation, a point on which he averred that the Eastern Church disagrees with the Western." We will not, however, undertake to decide the point in this place, but will end our remarks by saying that the editors have by this publication laid scholars under a great debt of gratitude.

La Littérature Syriaque. Par Rubens Duval. "Anciennes Littératures Chrétiennes." II. (Paris, Lecoffre.)—Syriac literature forms one of the principal sources for the history of the Oriental churches, and it was, therefore, only to be expected that it should be placed early in a series of works bearing the general title "Anciennes Littératures Chrétiennes." The question, also, whether the new work will be much needed by English students must be answered in the affirmative. The late Prof. Wright's 'Short History of Syriac Literature' (reprinted in 1894 from the ninth edition of the 'Encyclopædia Britannica') is, of course, most excellent, but the special merit of Prof. Duval's book consists in the arrangement of its first part (consisting of 325 pages) according to subjects, beginning with poetry and ending with translations from the Greek. In Prof. Wright's work the chronological sequence of authors is kept all through, so that no continuous account of any special subject was possible. The last eighty pages of the new book are occupied with short biographies of Syrian writers, St. Ephrem standing first, and Bar-Hebraeus closing the list. But for this part of the subject Prof. Wright's work is of much greater use, for it is manifestly inconvenient to have an author's biography separated from a complete account of his writings. We therefore arrive at the result that each book is useful in its way, and that students will not care to be without either. We must add that in our opinion Prof. Duval's work could not have been so full as it is if Wright's 'Syriac Literature' had not been written. This is an indebtedness which Prof. Duval would probably

be the last to deny. We have tested the references to printed works on several points, and we have found them up to date in almost every instance. Some works were, of course, passing through the press simultaneously with Prof. Duval's proof-sheets, and no absolute completeness can, therefore, be expected. The index of authors contains mainly the names of Syrian writers. We wish that it included the Greek writers mentioned and also modern editors. We hear that a second edition of this book is already in preparation.

Kurzgefasste Syrische Grammatik. Von Theodor Nöldeke. Zweite verbesserte Auflage. Mit einer Schrifttafel von Julius Euting. (Leipzig, Tauchnitz; London, Williams & Norgate.)—The appearance in a second edition of Prof. Nöldeke's 'Kurzgefasste Syrische Grammatik' is an encouraging sign of the continued—and possibly even increasing—interest that is being taken in Syriac studies. Nöldeke's Grammar has, since the appearance of the first edition in 1880, been justly regarded as the completest and most scientifically arranged introduction to the intricacies of classical Syriac. We do not, of course, deny the special merits of either Duval's Grammar (Paris, 1881) or Nestle's shorter work on the same subject (Latin edition, 1881; English translation of the second Latin edition, 1889). But Nöldeke's grasp of detail and exhaustive exposition of difficulties must be allowed to stand unrivalled, and English Semitists have, therefore, so far shown a decided preference for his guidance in classical Syriac as well as in several other Aramaic dialects. In his preface to the new edition Prof. Nöldeke tells us that, though the work has been much improved in detail, no attempt has been made at introducing changes of a far-reaching character. One important point to notice is that much more use has now been made of the Syriac Bible (especially the synoptic Gospels) for the purpose of illustrating the rules of syntax. This is due to the growing conviction that many portions of the Syriac Scriptures are written in good "idiomatic Syriac, which reads better than the Semitic Greek of the original." Another interesting feature of the second edition consists in the recognition of the influence of the Assyrian language on Aramaic; the existence of a certain number of Assyrian loan-words is, therefore, readily admitted. In cases of this kind Prof. Nöldeke follows the statements of Jensen as incorporated in Brocklemann's 'Syriac Dictionary.' The new preface also draws the reader's attention to the careful correction of the typographical errors of the first edition, and among those to whom Prof. Nöldeke declares himself indebted for the detection of these mistakes is mentioned the late Prof. Bensly.

Syrische Grammatik, mit Literatur, Chrestomathie, und Glossar. Von Carl Brocklemann. (Berlin.)—The series of which the present work forms a part used to be known as "Porta Linguarum Orientalium," but the general title has now been changed into "Hilfsmittel für das Studium der orientalischen Sprachen." We also note that the same series now contains two works bearing exactly the same title, the earlier work (second edition, 1889; English translation, 1889) being by Prof. Nestle. The main purpose of the new book is to provide a suitable chrestomathy for beginners, but it has been considered practical to give a complete elementary grammar as well. Dr. Brocklemann has within the last few years become known as a careful and strenuous worker in both Syriac and Arabic literature, and the present work seems to be a suitable complement to his 'Syriac Lexicon.'

A Critical and Exegetical Commentary on the Books of Samuel. By Henry Preserved Smith, Professor of Biblical History and Interpretation in Amherst College. "The International Critical Commentary." (Edinburgh, Clark.)—Prof. H. P. Smith's commentary on the books

of Samuel is thorough, painstaking, and frank. By the last term we mean to denote a readiness to acknowledge that the difficulties of the problem are in many instances of such a kind as to exclude a satisfactory degree of certainty in exposition. It is well known that the text of the books of Samuel is—with the exception, perhaps, of Ezekiel—more corrupt than the text of any other part of the Hebrew Bible. The other great difficulty which confronts the critical commentator consists in the complex literary process by which the book has finally assumed its present canonical form. Prof. Smith deals with both the textual and literary problems of his task with equal scholarship and tact. With regard to textual emendations, it must be observed that the Greek version, which the critic is continually obliged to cite in order to correct the corrupt text of the original, has, unfortunately, also suffered manifold corruptions. No wonder, therefore, that shortly before the publication of the present 'Commentary' there appeared a work by Prof. Löhr (an edition, with many fresh remarks, of Thenius's 'Commentary') in which the Masoretic text of the books of Samuel is treated with much more respect than has been accorded to it by Wellhausen, Driver, and the author of the work under review. The student will, therefore, turn with special interest to Appendix I. of the volume before us, in order to study the manner in which Prof. Smith meets the opposite views of Prof. Löhr. There are also instances in which proposed emendations of the Hebrew text rest on nothing better than private literary taste. As an example a phrase in 2 Samuel i. 21 may be taken. The literal rendering of the Hebrew as it stands is, "Ye mountains of [or rather in] Gilboa, neither dew nor rain upon you." Prof. Smith remarks: "אֶלֶּם seems to require a verb, *אֶלֶּם יָרְדוּ* *GL*: *אֶלֶּם יָרְדוּ* *GAB*; insert, therefore, 'יר'." But it will seem to many Hebraists that the omission of the verb renders the Hebrew phrase much more striking and poetic, and that the *אֶלֶּם יָרְדוּ* and *אֶלֶּם יָרְדוּ* of the different Greek MSS. represent an interpretation of the text rather than a literal rendering. A further glance at the Hebrew inclines one to think that Prof. Smith's emendation is practically impossible, for אֶלֶּם יָרְדוּ would sound much too awkward to be acceptable, and the phrase would certainly look very prosaic if 'יר' were put after אֶלֶּם. Much more certain than the solution of textual problems is the literary analysis of the books of Samuel. In Appendix III. Prof. Smith compares his own results with those of Prof. Löhr, and he is there able to say that the agreement in the critical analysis between himself and the scholar just named "is a matter for congratulation." Both of them accept in substance the results of Budde, Cornill, Kittel, and Wellhausen, "whose practical unanimity" is sufficiently striking. Where Profs. Smith and Löhr correct these results, or add to them, they frequently agree, and the value of such agreement between two independent workers is, of course, considerable. We have already intimated that, whilst admiring Prof. Smith's work as a whole, we are not able to praise it in all its parts. We find, for instance, that his remarks on the interesting term צְבָאוֹת (p. 5) are far too meagre if compared, e.g., with Prof. Cheyne's note on the same term in 'The Prophecies of Isaiah,' vol. i. pp. 11-13. A very praiseworthy feature in Prof. Smith's book is his concise way of expressing what he has to say; but we must own that Prof. Driver, who is, perhaps, his model in brevity, is greatly his superior in lucidity of expression and general clearness of presentation. These blemishes do not, however, diminish our appreciation of the many and substantial excellences of the work. Prof. Smith's 'Commentary' will for some time be the standard work on Samuel, and we heartily congratulate him on scholarly work so faithfully accomplished.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

In *An Idler in Old France* (Hurst & Blackett) Mr. Tighe Hopkins shows ability in reaping where he has not sown and gathering where he has not strawed. Many of the papers are composed of extracts from certain volumes written a few years ago by M. Alfred Franklin, and published in a series entitled "La Vie Privée d'Autrefois." The occasional allusions to that gentleman are utterly inadequate as an acknowledgment or explanation of Mr. Hopkins's wholesale plagiarisms. The paper called "The Surgeon-Barber," consisting of thirty-two pages, seems to be taken from M. Franklin's little book 'Les Chirurgiens.' In another of Mr. Hopkins's essays the first fifteen pages are based in like manner upon one of M. Franklin's books before that writer's name is even mentioned. We give an example of the Englishman's method taken at haphazard. After describing a banquet offered by the town of Paris to Catherine de Médicis, a description compressed from that given by M. Franklin, Mr. Hopkins thus translates his unavowed authority:—

"A menu not ungrateful to Catherine, who was a gross feeder and subject to indigestion. She had brought over cooks from Italy, who began to simplify the French cuisine, and who stood high as artists in their own esteem."—Tighe Hopkins, p. 66.

"For all this fine talk, the cheer at Catherine de Médicis's court was poor enough, and during the reign of her son, Charles IX., ten years of bad harvests, keeping the country in perpetual dread of famine, gave rise to the first (?) sumptuary laws against extravagant living. Increased consumption in those days did not mean increased production or a larger importation."—Tighe Hopkins, p. 67.

Mr. Hopkins should not have interpolated the word "first," which we have italicized, for such laws had long been in vogue. But more than once he either misapprehends or else takes liberties with his unacknowledged text. Thus M. Franklin's statement, "On engraisait les chapons avec des dragées musquées, afin de communiquer cette odeur à leur chair" ('La Cuisine,' p. 129), has evidently originated in Mr. Hopkins's mind the extraordinary idea that "capons were 'greased' with sugar plums"; whilst the Frenchman's phrase, "C'est du seizième siècle seulement que date l'usage d'exiger des domestiques un livret"—i.e., certificate of character ('La Cuisine,' p. 112)—is the father of Mr. Hopkins's assertion, "This was the era when guests in fine houses were first waited on by servants in livery." Our author's statement that the baths in Paris "were never closed by any edict of Church or State" is incorrect; we know from Delamare that they were shut in times of pestilence. But perhaps the most curious bit of information to be found in the book is that "Louis XIII. mounted the throne (in 1610) with a full moustache and a slight 'imperial' on the lower lip." He was then between eight and nine years old.

Croquet, in the 'Isthmian Library,' by Mr. Leonard B. Williams, published by Messrs. Innes & Co., is a competent work on a game which leapt into perfection between 1872 and 1874, and died in 1875, to arise again in 1896. A few fogies played it all along; but the crowds of great players who had filled the All England Croquet Club grounds at Wimbledon from 1872 to 1874, and the winter grounds at other places through the dark months of those years, vanished into space. Why, if the game has a

chance of living now, it should have died out then Mr. Williams cannot tell us. He is hardly just to his great predecessors: "Cavendish" (Mr. Jones), as remarkable at croquet as at whist, is not even indexed, and of the three Heaths, "Old Heath" and his two sons, only one.

We are sorry to see that in the revised edition of *The Vicar of Morwenstow* (Methuen & Co.) Mr. Baring-Gould retains the scandalous suggestion that R. S. Hawker married his first wife in order to get the money to go to Oxford. We pointed out the absurdity of this statement when the first edition of the book appeared, and as it was repeated the other day by the editor of an edition of 'Hawker's Poems,' it deserves denial again as a cruel imputation on a dead man. Mr. Gould also reiterates his conclusion that Hawker was staunch to the Church of England till within a short time of his death, and has omitted the quotations to the contrary effect which we gave. There are two ways of revising a book, and that chosen by Mr. Gould is not the better.

ENGLISH poetry does not as a rule lend itself very kindly to translation into the Romance languages, and it is therefore a remarkable testimony to the essentially Italian nature of Rossetti's genius that the Italian version of his work, by Signor Antonio Agresti, contained in the neat little volume *Poesie di Dante Gabriele Rossetti* (Florence, Barbèra) should possess the freshness and succulence (if we may use the term) of successfully transplanted flowers, instead of the aridity, as of a *hortus siccus*, which we associate with even the best executed attempts at transferring poetry, especially lyric poetry, from its own to an alien tongue. The principal pieces selected as specimens of Rossetti's muse are 'A Last Confession,' 'Sister Helen,' and 'The Staff and the Scrip.' The first suffers rather from the fact that the translator's desire to keep as close as possible to his original has compelled him to use blank verse—a metrical form to which Italian, with the almost invariably 'feminine' endings of its words, is, if Italians would only see it, eminently unsuited. Why did he not try to revive the true Italian narrative measure, and boldly venture on *terza rima*? In 'The Staff and the Scrip,' where he has allowed himself to consult the genius of his own language by adding one foot to the odd and two to the even lines of every stanza, and in 'Sister Helen,' still more transformed, he has, as it seems to us, achieved an unqualified success. In the last it is interesting to note that the Italian ear finds three syllables in 'Eastholm' and 'Westholm,' and sometimes two in 'Keith.' The translations are preceded by a very intelligent and sympathetic essay, in which some account of English painting in the last and present centuries leads up to the Pre-Raphaelites and Rossetti. We cannot acquiesce in Signor Agresti's verdict on Hogarth: "È fuori di dubbio e di discussione, Hogarth non è veramente un grande artista." It is clear, however, that he does not know much about him. Had he seen the 'David Garrick' or the 'Sigismunda' he would never have written "Il colorito è scialbo.....il disegno incorretto." Nor does he seem to be aware that there is another English school of water-colour besides, and by many much preferred to, that which paints "con la solidità e la penezza di colori d'una tela." De Wint, or the early Turner, would be a revelation to him. As a small criticism we would suggest that "la fanciulla besta" is hardly archaic enough to render 'The Blessed Damsel.' Why not "la donzella benedetta"? "Willowwood" is hopeless. No doubt "bosco di salici" is a correct topographical equivalent; but we take it that Rossetti did not employ the word on topographical grounds.

A NEAT box on our table which bears the inscription *Shakespeare's Plays* contains, in a wonderfully small space, all the dramas, and also, we

may add, a volume containing the 'Poems and Sonnets.' Each play in this "Handy-Volume" edition (Bradbury, Agnew & Co.) is printed separately with a glossary of its own, and the slender, light booklets are admirably suited to slip into the pocket of the traveller.

The *Jewish Year-Book*, edited by Mr. Joseph Jacobs (Greenberg & Co.), is as full of information as ever.—Another useful annual just arrived is *The School Calendar* (Whittaker & Co.), which gives a very extensive list of coming examinations and scholarships.

David Copperfield has been added to Messrs. Dent's neat little edition of Dickens's novels.

The reissue of Miss Braddon's novels by Messrs. Downey & Co. now includes *Henry Dunbar*.

We have on our table *The History of South America*, by an American, translated from the Spanish by A. D. Jones (Sonnenschein).—*The History of Corsica*, by H. L. Caird (Fisher Unwin).—*The Cyclist's Continental Companion*, by Viatore (Nutt).—*A Catalogue of Authors whose Works are published by Houghton, Mifflin & Co.* (Boston, U.S., Houghton & Co.).—*A Catalogue of Books from the Library of the late Gleeson White*, prefaced by a Tribute to his Memory by Prof. York Powell (Isaacs).—*A Catalogue of the Sculptured and Inscribed Stones in the Cathedral Library, Durham*, by F. J. Haverfield and W. Greenwell (Durham, Caldclough).—*The Royal University of Ireland Calendar, 1899* (Dublin, Thom).—*Précis de l'Histoire de France*, by A. Fortier (Macmillan).—*Contes des Fées*, by Ch. Perrault (Relfe Brothers).—*First Exercises in French Prose*, by H. C. Benbow (Rivingtons).—*Thucydides: Selections from Book VII.*, edited by E. C. Marchant (Macmillan).—*Macaulay's Essay on Milton*, edited by J. Downie (Blackie).—*One Hundred Stories for Composition in Alternative Versions* (Blackwood).—*The New Code for Day Schools, 1899-1900*, by T. E. Heller (Bemrose).—*An Elementary Course of Mathematics*, by H. S. Hall and F. H. Stevens (Macmillan).—*Pitt Press Series: Boileau, L'Art Poétique*, edited by D. N. Smith (Cambridge, University Press).—*Elementary Trigonometry*, by A. J. Pressland and C. Tweedie, Part I. (Simpkin).—*Astronomy for the Young*, by W. T. Lynn (Stoneman).—*Laboratory Manual*, by H. W. Hillyer (Macmillan).—*Yule and Christmas, their Place in the Germanic Year*, by A. Tille (Nutt).—*The Archbishop's Unguarded Moment, and other Stories*, by O. F. Adams (Boston, U.S., Page).—*The Patroness*, by G. M. George (Hutchinson).—*The Rose of Judah*, by G. Griffith (Pearson).—*The Archdeacon's Daughters, and other Stories*, by G. A. Musgrave (Digby & Long).—*Songs of Erin*, by P. J. McCall (Simpkin).—*The Way of the Kingdom, and other Poems*, by W. Hall (Sonnenschein).—*Poems and Songs*, by R. Tannahill (Edinburgh, Menzies). Among New Editions we have *The Aborigines of Tasmania*, by H. L. Roth (Halifax, King).—*The Life of James Thomson*, by H. S. Salt (Bonner).—*Hints on French Syntax, with Exercises*, by F. Storr (Rice).—*The Religious Affections*, by J. Edwards (Melrose).—*and Infelix*, by Lady Duntze (Long).

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

ENGLISH.

Theology.

Hutton's (W. H.) *The English Reformation*, cr. 8vo. 1/
Poetry.

James's (A. C.) *Songs of Sixpenny and Pupilroom Bippings*, &c., 4to. 5/ net.
Pratt's (T.) *Persephone in Hades, and other Poems*, 3/6 net.
Tennyson's (Lord) *Life and Works*, Vol. 11, royal 8vo., sets only, 150/ net.

Drama.

Crowley's (A.) *Jephthah, and other Mysteries*, 8vo. 7/6
Jones's (H. A.) *Carnae Sahib*, 12mo. 2/6

History and Biography.

Draper's (A. S.) *The Rescue of Cuba*, cr. 8vo. 5/
Geography and Travel.

Baring-Gould's (S.) *A Book of the West: Vol. 2, Cornwall*, cr. 8vo. 6/

Science.

Burnside (W. S.) and Panton's (A. W.) *An Introduction to Determinants*, 8vo. sewed, 2/6
Clarke's (J. J.) *Orthopaedic Surgery*, 8vo. 21/
Graham's (J.) *An Elementary Treatise of Practical Mathematics*, cr. 8vo. 3/6

General Literature.

Carlyle's (T.) *Critical and Miscellaneous Essays*, Vol. 3, Centenary Edition, 8vo. 3/6
Duncan's (Sara Jeanette) *The Path of a Star*, cr. 8vo. 6/
Fenn's (G. M.) *King of the Beach*, cr. 8vo. 3/6
Forbes's (Athol) *A Son of Rimmon*, cr. 8vo. 3/6
Jewish Year-Book, edited by J. Jacobs, cr. 8vo. 2/6
Lagh's (M. H. C.) *An Incurable Girl*, cr. 8vo. 2/6
Mendes's (H. P.) *Looking Ahead*, cr. 8vo. 5/
Palgrave's (M. E.) *Driftwood*, cr. 8vo. 5/
Reed's (T. B.) *Parkhurst Sketches, and other Stories*, 2/6
Thorne's (E.) *Her Own Way*, cr. 8vo. 2/6
Travail of his Soul, by Gak-Took-Sin (Dr. Philpot Crowther), cr. 8vo. 3/6
White's (A.) *The Modern Jew*, cr. 8vo. 7/6

FOREIGN.

Theology.

Bullinger (A.): *Die moderne Evangelienkritik*, 2m.

Fine Art and Archaeology.

Croix (R. P. C. de la): *Mélanges Archéologiques*, 4fr.
Jahrbuch der kunsthistorischen Sammlungen des Allerhöchsten Kaiserhauses, Vol. 20, 120m.

Philology.

Blaydes (F. H. M.): *Adversaria Critica in Aristophanem*, 3m.

Science.

Polla (P.): *Wolkentafeln*, 5m.

General Literature.

Estrade (J. B.): *Les Apparitions de Lourdes*, 2fr.

THE GOETHE CELEBRATIONS IN FRANKFORT.

Frankfort-on-the-Maine, August 28, 1899.

PROF. HERMANN GRIMM gave expression the other day to his enthusiasm for Goethe in the remark that the celebrations this year—the hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the poet's birth—would be as nothing compared with what they will be a hundred and fifty years hence. But even should Goethe appeal more to later generations of Germans than he does to the present generation—a very questionable assumption—it would be difficult to see how at least Frankfort could give heartier testimony to her pride in her greatest son than she has done on this occasion.

According to the official programme the "Goethe Feier" began here as early as August 21st, with a performance of 'Prometheus' and 'Clavigo' in the Schauspielhaus, followed by innumerable lectures and meetings of Frankfort societies. The principal events, however, were limited to the following Sunday and Monday. On Sunday the proceedings opened with a somewhat sombre procession of the Bürgermeister and representatives of the city, trade guilds, schools, &c., to the Goethe monument, where a ceremonial homage to the poet took place. In the afternoon followed a musical festival in the Hippodrome, at which a programme of Goethe music—Wagner's 'Faust' Overture, part of Schumann's 'Faust' music, Beethoven's Overture to 'Egmont,' and similar works—was gone through. The city orchestra, several choral societies, and some of the leading singers of the day (Herr van Rooy, Madame Schumann-Heink, amongst others) assisted in what was quite a brilliant musical function. In the evening the proceedings closed with a general illumination of the city and an impressive torchlight procession through the streets. On Monday, the actual anniversary, the celebrations began with a more serious ceremony, an "Akademische Feier," arranged by the Free German "Hochstift" (a Frankfort institution which endeavours to take the place of a university) and the German Goethe Society. Here (before, for the most part, an invited audience) the representatives of various societies and institutions were formally welcomed; then Prof. Erich Schmidt, of Berlin, who is always in demand where the German universities have to make an oratorical stand in the eyes of the outside world, gave an eloquent address on Goethe's relations to Frankfort. The theme is too well worn to admit of much being said upon it that is fresh, but Prof. Schmidt has the faculty of always being interesting. His address was the

best feature of the whole festival. After this speech came another by Prof. Valentin, of Frankfort, who spoke on 'Goethe in Natur und Kunst.' A banquet in the Palm Gardens followed. For those whose enthusiasm for Goethe's memory was still undiminished, a concert was provided to fill up the interval between the end of the banquet and the rising of the curtain in the Opera-house at half-past six. The "Festvorstellung" here, before a crowded house, began with a prologue and a tableau; then followed an admirable performance of 'Egmont,' which gave a much better impression of Goethe's powers as a dramatist than might be expected from merely reading this rather loosely constructed tragedy. Even when all this was over, one had still the opportunity of attending a great *Commerz* in the poet's honour, which was carried out with a heartiness that could not have been surpassed, even if the participants had been university students.

A special word is necessary for the fine performances of Goethe's works by the staff of the Frankfort Municipal Theatre—performances which to many formed the chief centre of interest at the festival. In all, six of Goethe's principal dramas were announced for performance, not counting the hardly effectual attempt to stage the noble 'Prometheus' fragment. 'Iphigenie' was produced in the Schauspielhaus on August 23rd, too early for most of the invited guests; but they had an opportunity of seeing 'Clavigo' and 'Prometheus,' which were repeated on the 25th. An almost perfect representation of 'Tasso,' the great "drama of the future," as Goethe enthusiasts love to call it, served as the "Vorfeier" on Saturday evening. 'Egmont,' the finest production of all, was, as has already been mentioned, performed on Monday; later in the week the first part of 'Faust' is to be given at reduced prices in the Opera-house; and, as the conclusion of the festival, a free performance of 'Götz von Berlichingen,' for the school children and working men's clubs of the city, is down for the first week in September. Such of these plays as I had the opportunity of seeing were produced in tasteful (indeed, elaborate) mountings, in practically uncut versions, and, on the part of the actors, with evident enthusiasm. To the credit of the German actor it must be said that he is rarely without two things, the art of tasteful declamation and poetic intelligence; but the feature that was likely to strike an English visitor most in these, as in all German performances, was the attention to *ensemble*, that equalness of execution which makes it impossible to single out any one player as a "star." As a whole, the Frankfort festival has been quite a memorable event, and redounds greatly to the credit of its organizers.

JOHN G. ROBERTSON.

'TOM BROWN'S SCHOOLDAYS.'

August 28, 1899.

WE notice in your issue of August 26th Messrs. Macmillan's letter concerning our announcement of a new edition of 'Tom Brown's Schooldays,' and beg to say that this announcement was the result of a complete misapprehension. We regret exceedingly the annoyance it has caused. METHUEN & CO.

LOLLARDEY.

4, Lawn Road, Haverstock Hill, August 24, 1899.

IN MR. G. M. Trevelyan's interesting account of the Lollard movement after the death of Wycliffe there is a map ('England in the Age of Wycliffe,' p. 352) intended to indicate, by means of blue and red colouring, the extent to which Lollardy had spread over different portions of England before and after the death of Richard II. But I think there is evidence that the infected area was far larger than is there represented. For instance, in the height of the Oldcastle panic commissioners were dispatched to try suspected Lollards at Bristol and in twenty

counties outside of London, yet eleven of these counties have a clean sheet in Mr. Trevelyan's map. They are Beds, Derby, Devon, Dorset, Hunts, Kent, Notts, Oxon, Rutland, Salop, and Warwick. Moreover, the existence of pardons to Lordards from Lancashire, Cheshire, Staffordshire, and Yorkshire would seem to indicate that the colouring should be still further extended if the map is to have a genuine historical value.

J. HAMILTON WYLIE.

THE COMING PUBLISHING SEASON.

MESSRS. J. M. DENT & Co.'s announcements for the coming season include:—General Literature: Lamb's 'Essays of Elia,' 2 vols., with introduction by Augustine Birrell, and illustrations by C. E. Brock, —'A World in a Garden,' by R. Neish, —'A Guide to the Reflections and Reminiscences of Bismarck,' from the German of Dr. Horst Kohl by Clara Bell, —'Beatrice d'Este, Duchess of Milan,' by Julia Cartwright, —'Gardens, Ancient and Modern,' by A. F. Sieveking, —'Woodcut Portraits of Twelve English Men of Letters of the Nineteenth Century,' by R. Bryden, —'The Practical Study of Languages,' by Henry W. Sweet, —and 'Italian Recipes,' by Mrs. Janet Ross. Christmas Books for Children: 'A Child's Companion to the Tower of London,' by Violet B. Hunt, —'Pussy Tales and Doggy Tales,' by E. Nesbit, —'Andersen's 'Fairy Tales,' with illustrations by Messrs. C. T. and W. Robinson, —'Pictures from Birdland,' by M. and E. Detmold and E. B. S., —'The Sculptor caught Napping,' —'Mrs. Leicester's School,' with illustrations by Winifred Green, —'Funny Folks,' by F. H. Howarth, pictures from Puck, —'Mother Goose,' nursery rhymes, with pictures by F. Oppen, —'The Jamesons,' by Mary E. Wilkins, —'The Talking Thrush, and other Tales from India,' collected by W. Crooke, and retold by W. H. D. Rouse, with illustrations by W. H. Robinson, —in 'The Temple Classics for Children': Lamb's 'Tales from Shakespeare,' Kingsley's 'Heroes,' and Martineau's 'Feats on the Fjord,' all illustrated by Arthur Rackham. Other works are: 'A Book of Madrigals,' collected by F. A. Cox, —Scott's 'Ivanhoe,' with illustrations by C. E. Brock, —in 'The Master Musicians': 'Beethoven,' by F. J. Crowest; 'Bach,' by C. F. A. Williams; and 'Wagner,' by C. A. Lidgley, —in 'The Haddon Hall Library': 'Hunting,' by J. Otto Paget, and 'Outdoor Sports,' in 2 vols., by the Hon. R. H. Lyttelton, —in 'The Modern Language Series': 'The First German Book,' by S. Alge, S. Hanburger, and W. Rippmann; and 'German Daily Life,' by Dr. Kron, —'A Merry House Full,' by Madame de Pressensé, edited by S. Alge, and 'Asinette: a French Story for Little English Readers,' by Mrs. J. G. Frazer, both illustrated by C. E. Brock, —Heine's 'Buch der Lieder,' edited by W. Rippmann, and other volumes, —'The Romances of Victor Hugo,' in 28 vols., new translation, with etchings by leading French artists, —and in 'The Medieval Town Series': 'Assisi,' by Miss Duff-Gordon; 'Pisa,' by Mrs. Grant Richards; 'Siena,' by Rev. S. L. Douglas; and 'Verona,' by Maurice Hewlett.

Messrs. George Routledge & Sons include in their list an *édition de luxe* of Mr. Crane's 'Baby Books,' containing the 'Baby's Opera,' 'The Baby's Bouquet,' and 'The Baby's Own Æsop' under the title of 'Triplets,' with a preface by Mr. Walter Crane, —a new edition of 'Men and Women of the Time,' —three novels: 'Children of Wrath,' by J. Provand Webster; 'The Kingdom of a Heart,' by Effie Adelaide Rowlands; 'The Boys of Dormitory Three,' by H. Barrow North, illustrated by E. J. Wheeler; besides others by Archibald C. Gunter, Col. Richard Savage, and Nat Gould, —a series of illustrated five-shilling gift-books, with woodcuts and pages of plates in colour, —new editions of Capt. Marryat's books for boys uniform with the

'King's Own Edition' of Capt. Marryat's novels, —and a reissue of the 'Ariel Shakespeare' in forty weekly volumes.

Messrs. Cassell & Co.'s autumn books include: 'Memoirs and Correspondence of Lyon Playfair,' by Sir Wemyss Reid, —'Our Rarer British Breeding Birds,' by R. Kearton, —'The National Gallery,' 3 vols., edited by Sir E. J. Poynter, P.R.A., —'The Ship of Stars,' by 'Q,' —'A Bitter Heritage,' by J. Bloundelle-Burton, —'Jenetha's Venture,' by Col. Harcourt, —'The Vizard of the Two-horned Alexander,' by F. R. Stockton, —'The Little Novice,' by A. King, —'Purple and Fine Linen,' by W. Pigott, —'Roxane,' by L. Creswicke, —'Life of Dr. C. A. Berry,' by J. S. Drummond and Mrs. Berry, —and 'The Guests of mine Host,' by M. Bower. In a new series, edited by P. N. Hasluck, 'Technical Instruction,' volumes on 'Practical Staircase Joinery' and 'Practical Metal Plate Work,' —and in the 'Work Handbooks,' under the same editor, 'Mounting and Framing Pictures,' 'Smith's Work,' and other volumes are promised. 'In Red Indian Trails,' 'Uncrowning a King,' 'Two Boys in Wyoming,' all by Edward S. Ellis, —'The Master of the Strong Hearts,' by E. S. Brooks, —'Founders of the Empire,' by P. Gibbs, —and several yearly volumes, serials, and cheap editions are also on hand.

Literary Gossip.

OWING to various misleading statements that have appeared regarding the publishing firm of Messrs. Hurst & Blackett, we are requested to state that the business has not been purchased by Kelly & Co., nor by Kelly's Directories, Limited. The business will be carried on as before; Mr. Herbert Blackett, who has been connected with the firm for the past twenty years, remains a director. He will in future further become manager and sole representative.

MR. ALFRED MAUDSLAY has paid no fewer than seven visits to Central America, and his archaeological results are being published in parts of the 'Biologia Centrali-Americana.' This, however, is an expensive work, beyond the reach of many buyers, and a less ambitious and expensive volume, giving a general account of Mr. Maudslay's travels and some notes on the ancient monuments of Central America, has been written by him and his wife, and will be published by Mr. Murray under the title of 'A Glimpse at Guatemala.' Reduced copies of maps, plans, and photographs from the 'Biologia' will be included.

OWING to unavoidable causes there has this year been a great delay in bringing out the well-known annual 'Burdett's Hospitals and Charities.' Sir Henry Burdett has, however, before leaving for his holiday, put the finishing touches to the book, and it will be published by the Scientific Press during next week.

MESSRS. DUCKWORTH & Co. have just sent to Messrs. Constable's press the manuscript of the first two volumes of Mr. Leslie Stephen's new work on 'The English Utilitarians.' There will be three volumes in all, and Messrs. Duckworth & Co. hope to publish the book early next year.

A CORRESPONDENT reminds us that the late Mr. Charles Crawley was the author of some law-books of repute—'The Law of Life Assurance' (1882) and 'The Law of Husband and Wife' (1892). The latter is a work of very considerable value.

MR. WILLIAM SENIOR, who is, with the exception of Sir John R. Robinson, the oldest member of the *Daily News* staff (which he joined in 1866), is resigning his post on that journal, with the object of securing more leisure for literary work. Mr. Senior, who, as 'Red Spinner,' is the author of several works on sport and travel, continues his connexion with the *Field* as editor of the angling department, in which he succeeded the late Francis Francis sixteen years ago.

THERE are a great many folk-tales and legends to be met with, in various parts of Italy, relating to Virgil as a magician. Mr. C. G. Leland has been engaged for a long time in collecting such stories from oral narration, and has succeeded in bringing together sufficient to make a good-sized volume. He will edit them, with introductions and explanatory notes, and will publish them shortly through Mr. Elliot Stock.

THE affiliation of Dundee University College to St. Andrews University, and the constitution at Dundee of a medical faculty in the University, are now practically completed, though an appeal to the House of Lords is still threatened by certain members of the Senate. Eight out of twelve chairs at Dundee are now wholly or partially supported by the University Court, and their courses qualify for graduation at St. Andrews. Thus, ten years after the passing of the Universities Act of 1889, effect is definitely given to its provision for the affiliation of Dundee.

THE death of Mr. Edmund Routledge, to whom we also refer elsewhere, occurred suddenly on Friday in last week in his fifty-seventh year. The head of the publishing firm of his name founded by his father, George Routledge, he did not long survive his brother. He compiled a date-book of daily events, and a book of 'Quotations from Shakespeare,' which contained some interesting notes as to their sources and parallels, and was engaged on a dictionary of popular quotations at the time of his death.

THE death is also announced of Mr. Palmer, the compiler of 'Palmer's Index to the *Times*,' who had at his death covered seventy-five years of the paper, working backwards as well as forwards.

SOME few years ago we published an account of the commemoration of Coleridge's cottage at Nether Stowey by the insertion of a mural tablet. A further scheme for the preservation of the cottage was then formed, but did not meet with the success it deserved. Mr. Greswell, of Dodington Rectory, Bridgwater, one of its early and warm supporters, now appeals for funds in the following terms:—

"I regret to say that death has been busy with some of the principal supporters of the scheme, and that the committee of preservation, originally very limited in numbers, are now badly in want of some pecuniary aid. Their difficulties would be solved if a sum of 200l. or 250l. could be raised, and the cottage itself purchased outright. It could then be converted into a Coleridge Library and Institute for the village of Nether Stowey."

MR. JOHN HOGG is about to publish 'King Radama's Word; or, John Aikin's Adventures in Madagascar,' by Robert

Thynne, with an appendix bringing events in Madagascar down to the present time; also 'The Dacoit's Mine; or, a Fight for Fortune,' by C. R. Kenyon.

The distinguished Latin scholar Alfred Fleckeisen died a few days ago. His main critical effort was devoted to the text of Plautus and Terence, whose plays he edited in the "Teubner Series," and the older Latin literature. His 'Kritische Miscellen' appeared in 1864. He was Conrector of the Vitzthum Gymnasium at Dresden from 1861 till 1889, when he retired; and since 1855 he had been one of the editors of the *Jahrbücher für Philologie und Pädagogik*.

We notice also the death of Dr. Peter Jacob Cosyn, Rector Magnificus of Leyden. He was the author of several works of value on etymology, and wrote a good deal in the way of literary journalism.

AMONG the recent Parliamentary Papers of interest to our readers are Education, University Colleges, Reports for 1898-9 (2s.); Ordnance Survey, Progress of, to March 31st last (3s. 3d.); Science and Art Directory for 1899 (6d.); and Charitable Donations and Bequests, Ireland, Report of Commissioners for 1898 (2d.). All these four are Command Papers. We notice that many who ought to know better continue to quote "C," which stands for Command Paper, as though it were an index letter.

SCIENCE

The Rabbit. By J. E. Harting. "Fur, Feather, and Fin Series." (Longmans & Co.)

THE rabbit is not indigenous in these islands, but, like so many other familiar objects of the country, was introduced here by the Romans, and it is not named as a common British rodent until the Middle Ages, and then formed, considering its size, an expensive dainty. Thus in 1360 it was sold at 10d. each, and in 1361 it cost 8d., when four ducks could be procured for 12d. These figures seem to show that it was still scarce even in the fourteenth century. At present, not only at home, but still more in the colonies, the rabbit is a most prolific animal. It never increases with the greatest fecundity where hares abound; hence the approaching extinction of hares, thanks to the Ground Game Act, is greatly in its favour. Recent mild winters, too, have stood it in good stead, so that at present where rabbits abound they are to be seen in greater numbers than ever. Rabbits, however, furnish a dainty dish for many a poor workman's Sunday dinner, even where squires and their more luxurious households are "thanking the Lord they have had enough" of "rabbits tender, rabbits tough," and as they can at present furnish no grievance to tenant farmers, their general increase throughout the country is a matter of welcome. That sportsmen look upon the rabbit with favour is only natural. A few rabbits are always a pleasant addition, even when the bag is almost filled with pheasants; and what would the schoolboy do in the Christmas holidays were there no rabbits to be shot? Seeing, therefore, how many in all ages and conditions of life are interested in the welfare of the rabbit, we count it a

happy thought of the publishers that among the game of Great Britain the rabbit should be included.

All that is connected with the rabbit's natural history and its traits when at home near its "buries" is excellently treated by Mr. Harting. We miss, indeed, an account of the manner in which it fights. This must have been noticed by many country lovers, but was first described by Edward, the Scotch naturalist. Sometimes two of these creatures rush at each other and butt like rams; but the more characteristic and singular mode is for each of the combatants to endeavour to jump above its antagonist and strike its head with a kick from the hind feet, which are capable of giving a severe blow. The paragraphs on the rabbit's enemies are carefully written. When a lover of rural natural history has once watched a stoat hunting down a rabbit (which it appears to fascinate to such an extent that we have known the unfortunate rabbit to rush cowering to our feet rather than run into the open to escape the stoat's advance), his first thought is that, in the interest of game generally and the rabbit in particular, the stoat should be trapped and shot down. Mr. Harting takes a wider view:—

"We are not at all in favour of exterminating stoats. Where rabbits are plentiful a few stoats will not do them much harm, and will do good in keeping down the rats, and thus saving the pheasants' food and the pheasant chicks. Rats, being so much more numerous than stoats, will do much more mischief than the latter where game and rabbits are concerned."

Domestic cats are also very destructive to rabbits. They watch at the mouth of the "buries" and seize the young rabbits as soon as they emerge. We have seen the same cat, when it had kittens, bring three or four little rabbits home in a morning. The depredations of dogs, too, are considerable. It is indeed fortunate that the rabbit is so prolific an animal when the long list of its enemies is enumerated, and when it is borne in mind that every countryman's hand is against it. Truly the coney is a feeble folk, but yet it manages wonderfully to protect its life. This remark may be emphasized by a perusal of Mr. Harting's pages which treat of snaring, netting, and trapping rabbits. They are interesting to every owner of game, and will largely add to the knowledge of every one who loves to use his eyes during a country walk. Many other scraps of rural knowledge may be picked up in this useful little book. Here, for instance, are some sensible remarks on the difference of speed in the hare and the rabbit:—

"A rabbit is said to run faster than a hare for thirty-five yards; and no one would think of comparing the two but for the few seconds that elapse after a rabbit is pushed from its 'seat'—when it runs its fastest—and after the hare is started, uncertain, timidly cantering off, but occasionally racing away at a speed which few four-footed creatures excel. The rabbit with its short legs, only half the length of a hare's, and its shorter body, twists and swerves aside with a jerky motion, and really seems to be going at a tremendous pace. The hare with her long legs, and the stride and grace of a race-horse, moves away so evenly that most people do not realize her true speed. No one who has shot at a hare can doubt her superior pace."

A chapter on the warren, ancient and modern, puts the reader in possession of

almost all that is known on the subject. The warren of the present day, it might have been added, finds it difficult to make his rabbits pay from the difficulty of catching and killing them. Shooting is out of the question, while they soon become suspicious of the "tip-trap" (a kind of cistern with a lid exactly balanced on a pin over its centre, which drops the rabbit into the cistern and then rights itself), and learn to avoid it as there are "vestigia nulla retrorsum." An excellent device to stop strange dogs which enter the warren and pursue the rabbits is to lay a stoutish wire on pegs near the "buries," higher than a rabbit, which easily runs under it, but high enough to send the eager dog rolling over and over as it runs against the unseen wire.

In all that concerns the shooting of rabbits Mr. Harting is a trustworthy guide. As to the legal advice on the laws bearing upon poaching, and especially on offences against the Ground Game Act, many men will at first think that these pages are somewhat out of place in a manual of sport and natural history. A moment's reflection, however, shows how much they add to the value of the book. As a matter of fact, too, most of the parochial quarrels on shooting throughout the country turn on the rabbit and on the powers which occupiers possess with regard to taking it. Mr. Harting, therefore, has wisely entered largely upon this subject.

As a well-known hawk, Mr. Harting is almost at his best in the chapter on rabbit hawking with the goshawk. He who has not seen a goshawk pursue and kill a rabbit has yet to see one of the finest exhibitions of trained instinct which the world of sport can show. The eager interest which attends the unslipping of the beautiful bird, the quick rush with which it pursues, and most probably seizes the terrified rabbit, and above all the bird's admirable schooling, which brings it back proud and happy to its owner's wrist, must be seen to be appreciated. This chapter is a model of good sense on the sport.

The pages on the cookery of rabbits are contributed by Mr. A. I. Shand, and might have produced a new flavour for Helio-gabalus and filled the breast of Apicius with envy. Rabbits, indeed, are excellent when cooked in almost any of the hundred methods to which they lend themselves with such facility. We own to a weakness for onions in connexion with almost all these different modes. A knife that has been passed once or twice through a clove of garlic may even be used advantageously when carving the tasty morsel. It is as well not to be too curious as to the nature of rabbits in Italian cookery. As for new recipes, it is to be hoped that some scholar-gipsy will not only quit Oxford, but return to it with the culinary treasures he has gathered during his sojourn with the Romans. "They have no objection to the pheasant or the fowl, but the rabbit in their menus ranks rather above the hare, and in fact comes only second to the hedgehog." Meg Dodds gives a recipe for rabbit pottage which Mr. Shand has transferred to his pages, and which might put a soul within the ribs of death. As for "boudins de Richelieu" or pies compounded of rabbits rolled among "eschalots, anchovies, or Norwegian sprats, with butter or shred suet," they savour of

"noctes coeque deorum"; they smother the rabbit in too ethereal flavours, and are not for ordinary mortals. Still, if any one will try an apotheosis before his time, here he will find their recipes.

The illustrations of this volume of the series are hardly up to the mark. The rabbits, and still more the goshawk, figured appear to have been drawn from stuffed specimens not too well set up. As a contrast the index is excellent, and much helps the reader to find his way about a useful and well-digested volume.

Proceedings of the Fourth International Congress of Zoology. Edited by Adam Sedgwick, F.R.S. (Clay & Sons.)

We are glad to find that the punctuality and other business-like qualities which distinguished the management of the meeting of zoologists at Cambridge last year have extended to the printed report. This appeared with an exemplary promptitude which does great credit to the editor. The well-printed and excellently illustrated volume before us will be a pleasant and permanent souvenir of a most enjoyable meeting. As we turn over the pages of the report we cannot but be led to reflect how many and various are the lines of inquiry which go to make up modern zoology. It was, no doubt, due to the initiative of those who had the chief direction of the meeting that the "natural history" side of the science was illustrated by Sir Herbert Maxwell's interesting paper on 'Recent Legislation on the Protection of Wild Birds in Great Britain'; its relation to physiography by Mr. Stanley Gardiner's report on his visit to coral reefs; and the necessity for including in it a study of fossil remains by the important discussion on the origin of mammals. Reactionaries attempt from time to time to separate the study of man from that of other animals, but it is only necessary to refer to M. Dubois's remarks on the 'Brain-cast of *Pithecanthropus erectus*' to see that anthropology is but a division of zoology.

We are glad to observe that a paper (very valuable, no doubt) on nomenclature was relegated to an appendix, and we will conclude with expressing the hope that no future Congress of Zoology will allow its time to be taken up with a discussion which, as all experience tells us, will be futile and barren.

We have on our table the annual volume of Messrs. Symons and Wallis on that painful subject the *British Rainfall*. Every year the volume in blue cloth published by Mr. Stanford becomes more welcome and indispensable. A map of the Angerton thunderstorm is supplied in this volume.—Mr. Mawley's *Phenological Observations for 1898* are also to hand.—We have also received those two excellent pocket-books *Whittaker's Mechanical Engineer's Pocket-Book*, by Mr. P. R. Björling (Whittaker & Co.), and Mr. O'Connor's volume *The Gas Engineer's Pocket-Book* (Crosby Lockwood & Son), a laudable attempt to meet a recognized want.

A NICE little map of the *South-Western Environs of London* has been brought out by Mr. Stanford for cyclists, &c.

SURGICAL BOOKS.

Traumatic Separation of the Epiphyses. By John Poland, F.R.C.S. With 337 Illustrations and Skiagrams. (Smith, Elder & Co.)—Most of the long bones of the body, like those of the arm and leg, grow in three chief pieces—an intermediate portion, known as the shaft or diaphysis, an upper and a lower portion, known as the epiphyses. The epiphyses remain gristly or cartilaginous long after the shaft has become bone, and they are, consequently, only loosely attached to it for many years after birth. It happens occasionally in young people that an accident separates one or other of the epiphyses, or even a part of them, for in young children the epiphyses themselves consist of separate portions, which unite with one another before the whole epiphysis becomes an integral part of the bone. Epiphyses, however, are so rarely separated in this manner that as recently as 1865 surgeons of repute maintained in public that the occurrence of such an injury might almost be denied. Little by little more accurate knowledge has been obtained by the collection of individual specimens, until surgeons have begun to realize the importance of this injury. But the fundamental error has still persisted of considering separation of the epiphysis as a variety of fracture rather than as the analogue of dislocation, which it really is. The treatment was, therefore, too often incorrect, though the surgeon had the excuse that separated epiphyses were not common in practice, and that but slight mention was made of them in his text-books. This excuse will be valid no longer. Mr. Poland gives a clear and connected account of the various injuries to which epiphyses are liable, and the best methods of treating each. No work of equal importance in connexion with the surgery of bone has issued from the press during the present generation. Like Sir Astley Cooper's 'Treatise on the Dislocations and Fractures of the Joints' in England, and Dr. Hamilton's 'Practical Treatise on Fractures and Dislocations' published at Buffalo, New York, it marks a distinct advance in surgery. Like these works, too, it must long remain a standard for reference—not final, because the rapid improvement which has taken place within the last few years by means of skiagraphs leads us to hope that many points which are still obscure will in the future be made clear; whilst the facts which Mr. Poland has accumulated render it probable that injuries which now seem to be very rare are, in reality, of no uncommon occurrence. The increase of athletic exercises, too, in the young of both sexes leads to an increased number of accidents, and in these accidents the growing ends of bone suffer in due proportion to the other parts. Mr. Poland's treatise is singularly complete, for he treats it from the scientific as well as from the practical standpoint. He deals in the first place with the general characters of epiphyseal separations, considering them under the headings of their anatomy, etiology, frequency, pathology, symptoms, prognosis, and treatment. The rest of the book is then devoted to a consideration of the separate epiphyses and the injuries to which they are liable. Mr. Poland gives evidence in this part of wide reading and diligent search, for he quotes cases from every source, and often supplements them with a critical commentary from his own experience. The more important illustrations are a series of skiagrams to show the development of the hand and wrist. These skiagrams are published separately, and further allusion is made to them below. There are, in addition, twenty-six other skiagrams in the volume, each illustrating very admirably important points in the traumatic separation of an epiphysis. Some of the illustrations in the text are borrowed from various sources, with due acknowledgment, but the majority have been specially drawn from original specimens. A first-rate index of names and another of subjects complete the book,

which is dedicated by the author to his father, Mr. R. H. Poland.

Skiagraphic Atlas showing the Development of the Bones of the Wrist and Hand. By John Poland, F.R.C.S. (Smith, Elder & Co.)—This atlas, containing nineteen skiagrams and a frontispiece, is a reissue of some of the plates in the author's larger work on the 'Traumatic Separation of the Epiphyses.' It is not, however, simply a reissue of the plates with their descriptions, but the author has prefixed a very excellent general description of the bones of the hand and wrist, also taken from the same source. The plates are interesting, because it is the first series of skiagrams which has been published with the design of showing the development of the bones of the hand and wrist. Some unexpected results have been brought to light, more particularly in regard to the ossification in the lower end of the radius, and in the different rates at which ossification takes place in different individuals. The plates are well executed from first-rate negatives, and they are likely to be serviceable.

A Clinical Treatise on Diseases of the Breast. By A. Marmaduke Sheild, M.B. Cantab. (Macmillan & Co.)—From no hospital in London could a clinical treatise upon diseases of the breast come more appropriately than from St. George's, where Sir Benjamin Brodie first introduced order into the chaos formerly existing in the minds of surgeons about mammary tumours. Mr. Sheild has been surgeon at Addenbrooke's, at Charing Cross, at St. George's, and at the Hospital for Women and Children in the Waterloo Bridge Road. He has thus had great opportunities of seeing the various diseases which affect the human breast, and this book is the direct outcome of his observations. The work is divided into eleven chapters and an appendix. It contains a first-rate analysis of the present state of our knowledge about diseases of the breast and their treatment, as well as much information that is of value alike to the surgeon, the general practitioner, and the public. Mr. Sheild very properly lays much stress upon the difficulties of recognizing chronic and deeply seated abscesses of the breast, and he gives good guides for avoiding the many pitfalls into which they lead the unskilful. His account of the vexed question of the interpretation of the microscopical appearances in cases of Paget's disease is fair and rational, for it is based on common sense. Although he is a surgeon and an acknowledged authority upon cancer of the breast, he is able to write of the treatment of this terrible disease that "the swing of the pendulum of surgical opinion is generally extreme, and has now turned from too slight to too extensive operating." In the short historical account of the cases of supernumerary mammae Mr. Sheild might, perhaps, have alluded to the part played by these abnormalities in the witch-finding mania of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. There are many instances of carelessness in the spelling of proper names. Thus Danielsson should be *Danielsson*; Griffiths should be *Griffith*; Abrahams, *Abraham*; Halstead, *Halsted*; and Winniwarter, *Winiwarter*. The flat back of the volume is ugly, and makes the book awkward to carry, though no doubt it renders it conspicuous. But such small blemishes do not detract from a really valuable work, which is well illustrated by suitable drawings executed by different artists.

The Surgical Anatomy of the Lymphatic Glands. By Cecil H. Leaf, M.B. (Constable & Co.)—A careful dissection of the lymphatic system was one of the unfulfilled dreams of William Hunter, for he was engaged upon it at the time of his death. He gave the task in charge to two of his most brilliant demonstrators, John Sheldon, his successor as Professor of Anatomy in the Royal Academy, and William Cumberland Cruikshank, the surgeon who attended Dr. Johnson. Both worked

hard, and Sheldon ruined his health, for the dissecting room of the eighteenth century was a very different place from that of to-day. Cruikshank continued Sheldon's work, and issued, in 1786, 'The Anatomy of the Absorbing Vessels of the Human Body'; but the work still remained unfinished. The tradition long continued in the Hunterian school, whose members never wearied of injecting mercury into the absorbents of the different organs and tissues of the body. It has been somewhat neglected, latterly, but within the last few years the subject has acquired a fresh interest on account of the better knowledge which has been gained of the method by which such diseases as cancer and tubercle spread in the body until they kill it. Dr. Leaf's work will be serviceable to the surgeon, because it shows him the exact position of the small lymphatic glands, often hidden away in loose tissues near important vessels and nerves, whose enlargement points out that the disease for which an operation has already been performed is not yet eradicated. We may hope that the present volume is only the beginning of much more good work upon the lymphatic system, for much still remains to be done, and more delicate methods promise a rich harvest of results. The book, though written for surgeons, is arranged anatomically; no index is provided, and it is difficult therefore to find what is wanted without waste of time. The illustrations are well drawn and well rendered, except figure xvii., which is rather too diagrammatic. There are misprints in the lettering of figures v. and xiv. and on pages 57 and 65. The work, however, is carefully done and is likely to be serviceable.

GEOLOGICAL LITERATURE.

Annals of Coal-Mining and the Coal Trade. By Robert L. Galloway. ('Colliery Guardian' Company.)—The subject of coal-mining is one which lends itself admirably to antiquarian treatment. The records of the twin arts of winning and selling coal are disseminated in the form of incidental notes of very various value throughout past chronicles of all kinds, and to gather the scattered threads from so many sources, and weave from them something like a complete whole, is no mean task. It is, moreover, a task which requires an unusual combination of qualities in him who undertakes it. To the patience and accuracy of the historian and archaeological researcher he must add wide professional knowledge, and what is rarer still, considerable leisure. Mr. Robert Galloway has in his previous writings shown that he possesses the first-named requisites; he is, moreover, known as an eminent mining engineer, and the most interesting collection of coal-lore before us proves that he possesses that great art of finding time which is the secret of very busy men. In these five hundred pages the author takes his readers from stage to stage in the history of coal, at somewhat rapid speed at times, it must be confessed, beginning with the *anthracites* which smiths used in the time of Theophrastus in the north of Italy and in Elis, and ending with the publication of the well-known anonymous 'History of Fossil Fuel' in 1835, ascribed to John Holland. In following Mr. Galloway through his fifty chapters one cannot but mark with some degree of surprise the large relative space occupied by events connected with Northumberland and Durham. This is no doubt in part due to the really preponderating importance of the Newcastle coal-field in past times. We cannot help suspecting that it is also partly due to personal predilection or to special sources of knowledge open to the writer as to this particular district. The fact remains that these 'Annals' are more the annals of the great northern coal-field than of any other. Nevertheless, plenty of information is given respecting the other principal coal-mining regions of Britain, and curious side-lights

are thrown upon men and manners in many parts of the country and in all periods. Most classes of readers will, we think, find entertainment as well as profit in this volume. The lover of words will scarcely skip a page without losing something. "Collier," for instance, did not always mean a worker in coal-pits; at first the term was applied to charcoal-burners, and then sometimes to coal-vessels—as, indeed, it still is at present. Then the coal-mines were once known as "groves" or "grooves," and elsewhere as "delfs," &c. The student of social life will note that the hated smoke due to coal-burning was bitterly complained of long before London fogs had been created by it. Thus as early as in 1257 Queen Eleanor was so disgusted with the coal-smoke of Nottingham that she was forced to remove from that town to Tutbury Castle, in Staffordshire. In 1306 the smoke nuisance was so bad in London that smiths only were excepted in an edict of Edward I. prohibiting the use of mineral coal. As late as 1578 it appears that "Her Majesty [Queen Elizabeth] findeth herselfe greatly greved and annoyed with the taste and smoke of the se cooles" used by the brewers near Westminster Palace. Indeed, the very slow acceptance of coal for domestic purposes is one of the numerous little-known points well worked out by Mr. Galloway. Later on the invention of the steam engine and the adoption of railways, excellently described in these 'Annals,' bring one to the heroic age of coal-mining, when all that the boldness of man can conceive and that science can suggest is applied to the deliberate exhaustion of those underground layers of fuel to which so much of England's power is due. The illustrations are from many sources and are well selected. Among them none is quaint as fig. 1, representing—we trust with some exaggeration—a female coal-bearer of days gone by.

River Development, as illustrated by the Rivers of North America. By Prof. I. C. Russell. (Murray.)—Rivers and their fitful ways long ago attracted the attention of English geologists; and men like Ramsay and Jukes, with a keen insight into the restoration of the physical features of our land in past periods, managed to unfold the partial history of some of our great streams. It is in America, however, that the most marked advances in the science of potamology have recently been made. The geologists of the United States discovered in the arid region of the south-west a vast area crowded with grand object-lessons, which gave a fresh impulse to the study of the origin of the surface forms of the earth. Among these topographic features, the river-valleys attracted the attention of Newberry, Powell, Gilbert, Dutton, and other geologists. Nor have the rivers of the Eastern States been wanting in students; witness, for example, the excellent work of Prof. W. M. Davis, of Harvard. Much interest, therefore, attaches to the volume on 'River Development,' which has been contributed to "The Progressive Science Series" by Prof. Israel Russell, of the University of Michigan, and which has been issued on the other side of the Atlantic under the title of 'The Rivers of North America.' Prof. Russell handles his subject in a masterly manner, and the student who has confined his reading to English works will find that even familiar topics assume a freshness of aspect under his treatment. More than half the volume is devoted to the study of river action as a threefold agency, effecting erosion, transport, and deposition. Here we trace the successive steps by which the land is disintegrated, and the stolen material carried off partly in a state of mechanical suspension, and partly as an invisible load in chemical solution, to be ultimately deposited as a sediment in the one case, and as a precipitate in the other. It is the old story, familiar enough to every geological student, but told in a refreshing style, which makes it welcome reading. On

reaching, in the seventh chapter, the real subject of river development, the reader will find a clear exposition of the modern views and phraseology which have become accepted by the writings of Prof. Davis and others in America. The classification of streams as "consequent," "subsequent," and "obsequent," and the mysteries of "beheaded" and "betrunken" rivers, are, as a matter of course, expounded. An English reader, no doubt, would follow the explanations more readily if they had been illustrated by rivers in his own country instead of those in North America. The Thames and the rivers of the Weald might have furnished excellent examples, if the writer had desired to appeal specially to English students. Even if an English illustration is introduced, its source seems rather unfortunately to have been overlooked. Thus, fig. 1 (p. 33) is described as representing "a pot-hole scoured out by stream action (after R. S. Tarr)." It might naturally be assumed that as this is borrowed from Prof. Tarr it would be an American illustration, whereas we recognize it as a view of a pot-hole at Glenariff, in co. Antrim, from a photograph by Mr. Welch, of Belfast. The most striking part of Prof. Russell's work seems to be the last chapter, entitled "The Life-History of a River." Here the writer rises to a poetic style. It is not usual to find in a scientific work such language, for instance, as the following:—

"These various forms are modulated and their details concealed beneath a living mantle of vegetation. Seasonal changes, recurring like the figures in a dance of merry children, come and go with the ebb and flow of the annual tide of temperature. Each springtime the willow-fringed brook-sides blush with the pulsations of renewed youth. Flowery banks and shadowy vistas in the forests reveal cool retreats in summer, when in the stillness of the evening we hear the distant mellow song of the wood-thrush. The deep, strong, harlequin colours of autumn make the island a garden of gorgeous flowers edged about by the silvery turf. In winter the babble of the brooks is hushed beneath icy coverings, and the bare trees are etchings on the white pages of the snow. These minor harmonies are interwoven all through the melody of the ages. Like the white fretwork on the waves of the sea, they accompany the greater changes wrought by unseen agencies."

The Gold-Fields of Australasia. By Karl Schmeisser, assisted by Dr. K. Vogelsang. Translated by Prof. Henry Louis. 2 vols. (Macmillan & Co.)—In 1893, as all the world knows, Herr Schmeisser was sent out to the Transvaal by the Prussian Government on a mining mission. The report which was the result of this tour was so well received as to place its author at once in the front rank of mining experts. Accordingly, in 1895 we find him commissioned by two great English investment and exploration companies to visit and report upon the gold-fields of Western Australia for them. This he consented to do. A year's leave was obtained from the Prussian Minister for Trade and Industry, on condition that the ministry should receive duplicates of all reports supplied to the English companies. In this manner, though not quite on the same high independent footing as in the case of the South African inspection, a kind of semi-official stamp was imparted to the second expedition. We may at once add that Herr Schmeisser appears to us to write quite as impartially whether he represents a government or serves a money-making corporation. In the two handsome volumes before us will be found an excellent account of Western Australia, Victoria, New South Wales, New Zealand, Tasmania, and Queensland, from the mining point of view almost exclusively. The first-named of these colonies is much more fully described than the others, and Queensland was visited by Dr. Vogelsang, Herr Schmeisser's assistant, alone. Nowhere can so much recent information be easily gathered respecting the chief auriferous regions of the Antipodes; but it must be understood that by far the greater portion of this information—geological, topogra-

phical, legal, financial, and statistical generally—is derived from colonial official papers and maps. In fact, though the present book seems to be quite as conscientiously put together as its South African predecessor, it cannot be regarded as being to anything like the same extent an original work—the fruit of actual personal investigation. That portion which relates to Western Australia may be excepted from this criticism, and it is, in consequence, much the most valuable. The characteristic and well-printed photographs which serve as illustrations, and the excellent maps and statistical tables, which are conveniently stowed in a second volume or portfolio of their own, add greatly to the completeness of this useful publication. Prof. Henry Louis has merely translated, not edited, Herr Schmeisser's German report. His translation is all that one can wish, though British geologists would probably grumble at his use of the term "Archaic" for *Archean*.

THE FIRE RITE.

As it is not generally known that this strange and inexplicable rite ranged also to the New World, Mr. Andrew Lang may be glad to have his attention drawn to the following passage in my recently published 'Man, Past and Present,' p. 394:—

"A curious illustration of the universality of certain practices, which from their very nature might be supposed restricted in time and place, is afforded by the 'fire-dance' found flourishing in an aggravated form amongst the Catawbas [of South Carolina], as amongst the ancient Sabines, the Fijians, and so many other peoples: 'These miserable wretches are strangely infatuated with illness of the devil; it caused no small horror in me to see one of them.....stand barefoot upon burning coal for near one hour, and then, recovering his senses, leap out of the fire without hurt or sign of any' (Lederer, quoted by James Mooney, 'The Siouan Tribes of the East,' Washington, 1894, p. 71)."

A. H. KEANE.

Science Gossip.

THE Government of the Straits Settlements have issued a memorandum drawing attention to the desirability of investigating the tropical disease called Beri-beri. In 1896 the disease caused 730 deaths in the colony, and there were 692 in 1897. Special facilities will be given to any scholar who desires to engage in this scientific investigation, including the provision of cost of passage, furnished quarters rent free, and access to the hospitals in the colony. It may be mentioned in this connexion that Dr. Hamilton Wright has recently been appointed, with the approval of the Colonial Office, pathologist to the new Institute for Pathological Research established in the Federated Malay States. He has not yet taken up his duties, as he is engaged at the School of Tropical Medicine upon matters of laboratory equipment.

AMERICAN scientific institutions among others are not behind the times in commemorating notable dates in their existence. Only the other day Princeton University specially marked the occurrence of the 150th anniversary of its foundation, and now it appears that the Connecticut Academy of Arts and Sciences of New Haven will celebrate the centenary of its existence on October 11th. Upon that occasion the Academy will welcome delegates from England, who will assist in the commemoration festivities.

THE planet Mercury is at greatest western elongation from the sun on the morning of the 5th inst., and will be visible before sunrise during the first half of the month, situated in the western part of the constellation Leo, and passing very near its brightest star, Regulus, on the 9th. Venus is at superior conjunction with the sun on the morning of the 16th, and will not be visible either this month or next. Mars sets now only two hours after sunset, and

will cease to be visible before the end of the month; he is in the western part of Virgo, and will be in conjunction with the moon on the afternoon of the 8th. Jupiter is in Virgo, near its boundary with Libra, and still visible for a short time in the south-west, setting about two hours after sunset. Saturn is still near the place where the feet of Ophiuchus find an uncomfortable position on the back of Scorpio; he is on the meridian about sunset, and will be in conjunction with the moon (then entering her first quarter) on the evening of the 12th inst.

A WORK entitled 'Elementary Algebra (to Quadratics),' suitable to a beginner, lucidly and clearly written in simple language, has been prepared for Messrs. J. & A. Churchill by Mr. C. H. French and Mr. G. Osborn, who are masters at the Leys School, Cambridge.

THE "Hofmannshaus," which is being erected at Berlin in memory of the distinguished chemist A. W. von Hofmann, is expected to be finished shortly. The walls and the ceilings will consist of incombustible materials, and the building will contain a fairly large lecture-hall.

FINE ARTS

Pictures in the National Gallery, London.
With Descriptive and Critical Notes by
C. L. Eastlake. Illustrated. (Hantsaengl.)

OR the earlier portions of this magnificent volume, which is now completed, we have already written in terms of praise. Later issues have more than redeemed the promises of the beginning, so that for the work as a whole we can speak gratefully and conclusively. Mr. Eastlake's familiarity with the pictures is, of course, incomparable, for to the arrangement and hanging of them for many years it was largely his business to attend. No one has enjoyed greater opportunities of studying them, nor has any one used these opportunities with more zeal. Few, indeed, have shown so much sympathy or intelligence.

Mr. Eastlake is not a brilliant, still less an emotional writer, nor does he attempt to penetrate deeply into the secrets of that Neo-Platonism which, in the National Gallery, as elsewhere, lies embedded in the designs of the great masters of the earlier Renaissance, such as Botticelli—some of whose mysteries Patmore penetrated; Leonardo's aspiring dreams, his *suspia de profundis*, have no representation in these pages, although they were manifest to Rossetti, for instance, and found intense expression in the sonnet 'For our Lady of the Rocks,' which ends with the passionate verse:—

Mother of grace, the pass is difficult,
Keen as these rocks, and the bewildered souls
Throng it like echoes, blindly shuddering
through.

Thy name, O Lord, each spirit's voice extols,
Whose peace abides in the dark avenue
Amid the bitterness of things occult.

Mr. Eastlake has wisely left these things to those whom they may concern; he is careful to record his opinion that the picture which was in his charge as well as that known as 'La Vierge aux Rochers,' now in the Louvre, were alike executed by the hand of Leonardo. Long ago, after passing from the one picture to the other with all possible speed and carefully comparing them, the present writer came to the same conclusion, awarding the preference, as to condition and inspiration, to what was then Lord

Suffolk's version, and is now very well, though with some excess of darkness, reproduced in the volume before us.

Mr. Eastlake exercises a wholesome discretion in not accepting, still more in not recording, many of the crude opinions of the so-called modern school of critics. Neither does he carefully shut his eyes nor close his judgment against the well-grounded views of those whose knowledge forbids them to trust too much to the mere resemblances that may, for example, exist in the drawing of two ears in certain works of which the authorship is disputed. Possessing not a little technical knowledge, our author is protected against an excessive desire to uproot old convictions. On the other hand, it would have pleased us more if the late Secretary had offered the readers who have to pay a large price for his book much more information than he has done as to the provenance and history of several of the great works before us; as it is, the official catalogue, which may, of course, owe something to him as well as to his colleagues in Trafalgar Square, not seldom contains as much information as these pages do. Undoubtedly Mr. Eastlake must have compiled a large proportion of his notes while he was still in office at the Gallery, a circumstance which, of course, tended to restrain him from expressing opinions decidedly adverse to those of the catalogue published by the Trustees. This, too, has no doubt produced the tone of caution conspicuous in passages such as that touching on No. 27: "The Portrait of Pope Julius II. is one of many executed, with certain variations, by Raphael, or copied by one of his pupils." The latter part of this statement vindicates Mr. Eastlake's independence and justifies his position as a critic. He is peculiarly happy in regard to what he writes about Guido, one of the greatest but coldest of all the Academic masters. Having briefly sketched the history of Guido's art, its rise, decline, and fall—without, however, remarking that Guido and Domenichino were born at least fifty years too late—he proceeds thus to speak of the one first-rate specimen of the powers of Guido at their best that the National Gallery possesses:—

"The high esteem in which another and more important picture by Guido was once regarded, and the popularity which in the days of our grandfathers it gained by copies and engravings, make it impossible to omit it from any general description of works in the National Gallery. 'Lot and his Daughters leaving Sodom' (193) still forms a prominent feature in the room devoted to late Italian art, but is judged by a very different standard of taste from that which prevailed in the last century. The group is painted on a scale somewhat larger than life, and the figures are seen at half-length. Lot is represented as a venerable and bearded man, whose form is enveloped in a scarlet pallium, while his daughters, one of whom bears a vase, are clad in draperies of amber colour and bronze green. The male head is studied from a handsome model, correctly drawn, though, considered in relation to the subject, deficient in interest. The young women's features are of a strictly Academic type, and, either from defective work or injudicious cleaning, reveal a pallor of complexion equally untrue to nature and unworthy of the painter's brush. On the other hand, it must be admitted that the draperies are treated with

dexterity and taste, while the general type of the group may be described as vigorous and dignified."

So far good. But surely this is not praise enough for the noble beauty of the daughter with the vase, her lofty air and majestic grace; the difference between her and her less stately sister is decidedly to Guido's credit. The colour, too, of the vase-bearer's figure as a whole is exceptionally fine and good for Guido, inclining as it does to the richness of Bronzino. Mr. Eastlake, if he had had a line or two to spare for the purpose, would doubtless have recommended his readers to notice the admirable expression of onward movement which pervades this group. That the somewhat heavy and cold carnations of the women may be partly due to injudicious cleaning is likely enough; but that defect is, we fancy, attributable largely to the practice of the Bolognese, who almost invariably painted on very dark grounds, a circumstance which Mr. Eastlake carefully refers to in regard to other pictures in the Gallery. Guido's carnations are generally somewhat contradictory, according as men or women are in question; the flesh of his men, especially the older ones, is usually too hot and feverish, while that of the women is remarkable for a clay-like substantiality and stony coldness. It is not to Guido's credit as a designer that some not unsympathetic critics have hesitated to assert that this exceptionally fine example really represents Lot and his daughters. It is the modern fashion to undervalue the Bolognese master, but we should not be surprised if an age which left Frank Hals so long out in the cold did not turn right round, and "go in" for Guido and his sound academicisms, his eclecticism, and, at least, his lifelike power of designing.

It would be difficult, after accepting what is inevitable in photogravure, to give too much praise to most of the admirably chosen plates. Above all, the brilliant, firmly painted, and smooth surfaces of the Primitives favour the process called "gravure Hanfstaengl," which has been employed for the larger, full-size examples, although the rough surfaces, opacity, and sombre tones, intensely glowing colours, and not always lucid masses of shadow of the later masters are distinctly unfavourable to it in such pictures as Sebastiano's 'Raising of Lazarus' and Tintoret's 'Origin of the Milky Way,' where, and elsewhere, the chiaroscuro is injured, or rather done away with. On the other hand, seldom or never have we found that the expressiveness and inspiration of the faces in any of the pictures are lost. The lesser illustrations printed with the text are almost always delightfully brilliant, full of the inspiration of their originals, and fascinating in themselves.

Taking this superb publication as a whole, and not forgetting Mr. Walter Crane's original design for the cover, the typography, and all the printer has done, one may say that nothing of the sort published in England surpasses it, and that every reviewer who does it justice must lay down his pen with regret, and will not seldom return to its pages.

A Catalogue Raisonné of the British Museum Collection of Rubbings from Ancient Sculptured Stones: a Chapter of Scotland's History as it is written on its Rocks and Stones as "with a Pen of Iron on the Rock for ever," also of who it was that did this Writing, and of who it was that undid it. By Christian MacLagan. (Edinburgh, Douglas.)—We congratulate Miss MacLagan, who informs us that she is in her eighty-eighth year, upon the munificence with which she has presented to the nation a splendid collection of three hundred "rubbings" (which appear rather to be carefully executed drawings in sepia on the basis of rubbings) of sculptured and inscribed stones from Scotland, and also upon having completed this interesting guide to her collection. She seems to think that her labours have met with scanty appreciation; for she says "that the doing of these hundreds of rubbings has proved but a thankless office," and asks, "What if it had been the work of a man?" We think she may reassure herself. No mere man would have devoted himself to the work with such untiring industry, or would have parted with its results with such ungrudging generosity. She need not, therefore, fear the competition of the ruder sex; and we think we are not mistaken in saying that the excellence of some of the models of Scottish prehistoric remains which she has at times exhibited to English audiences has been fully acknowledged. The present collection contains two specimens of cup-markings from Perthshire, and two of a fragment from Sutherlandshire, exhibiting symbols formed of combinations of circles and other simple forms; the majority of the remainder of the rubbings are early mediæval crosses and other sepulchral monuments, decorated, and in some cases inscribed. Four of these are from St. Ninian's Monastery, forty-seven from Iona and the neighbourhood, and about three times the number from other parts of Argyllshire. From the ruins of St. Mary's, Rothesay, Miss MacLagan has selected for rubbing part of a mural monument of a lady and child, including a procession of ladies. From Golspie, in Sutherlandshire, eight examples are given, one of them containing an Ogham inscription. The St. Andrews School of Sculpture (Fifeshire) is represented by three specimens, the Arbroath School by twenty-four from Forfarshire and five from Perthshire, and the Fearn Abbey School by four from Ross-shire. Though the author has devoted so much labour to illustrating and preserving a record of these remains of mediæval art which were erected under the shadow of the monasteries, and are, it is to be feared, in many cases going rapidly to decay, she is a sturdy Protestant and Presbyterian. She heartily approves of the dissolution of the monasteries as communities, but regrets the destruction of the buildings and works of art:—

"Suppression of monasticism and destruction of the monasteries need not have been done together. Though the Reformation and the destruction of the monasteries stand together in point of date, it is not necessarily proved that they stood together as cause and effect."

She holds that it was neither the reformers nor the rabble who did this, but that the nobles who profited by the destruction were the destroyers. We need not follow her in the discussion of that question. For those who wish to consult the rubbings it may be convenient to state that they are in the Manuscript Department of the Museum.

Two volumes of the new and convenient edition of Mr. Ruskin's works, including *Præterita*, have reached us from Mr. George Allen. The same publisher has issued a third edition of *Our Fathers have told Us*.

An English translation of *Boule de Suif*, Maupassant's famous story, has been sent to us by Mr. Heinemann. M. Thevenot's very clever illustrations and an introduction by Mr. Arthur Symons add to the value of the volume.

DOMESTIC ARCHITECTURE.

The Evolution of the English House. By Sidney Oldall Addy, M.A. (Sonnenschein & Co.)—This book is one of a series called the "Social England Series," and the editor of the series, Mr. Kenelm D. Cotes, starts it with a preface full of airy expansiveness, which when evaporated to dryness is not found to contain much more than the opinion that other matters go to make up history besides politics and fighting. The book itself might be made a good one if all the "evolution" were left out. When Mr. Addy writes of things within his own knowledge, he has something to tell us. But it is obscured by pages of strange speculation and wild guesswork, the outcome of wide but unassimilated reading. Things entirely disconnected and far apart in time and place are linked together, and lines of argument are used which recall that by which King Jeremiah was proved to be a pickled cucumber. For example, the title Tungerefa, or town reeve, is found latinized as *rector pagi*. But *rector* is the *persona*, or parson of the parish; therefore the parson was the town reeve, and "he was still the fiscal officer of the district." The church in which the parson served has even stranger treatment than himself. It is called the lord's house, *lord* here being the lord of the manor. That perilous word *basilica* has led many writers astray, but surely none before to dance through whin and quagmire as does Mr. Addy. To him the ancient basilica was a court of law, and he finds the name given to English churches in the seventh century and on to the fifteenth. Courts of one kind and another have been held in churches even to our time. Therefore the arrangements of late mediæval parish churches must be understood as having reference to their use as court-houses. With this new light he proceeds to enlighten us as to the fabrics of our churches, which, he says, "still continue to puzzle the antiquary." "From the fifth century causes were exclusively heard in the *secretarium*." But "the English chancel was known in mediæval Latin as *secretarium*." Therefore, causes were heard in the English chancel. The altar "stood directly under the chancel arch." "The chancel was the tribunal, and was the platform from which the speaking was done. The chancel screen was the lattice of open work, behind which sat the lord and his assessors. It was the presbytery, or seat of the elders." All this is very nice, and it is also new. But going into details, Mr. Addy has more to tell us. He mentions the low side-window, but omits to explain it, which is a pity. "Squints" seem to him to have been made "to enable a man standing within the door of the porch to see the high seat of the president of an assembly sitting in the chancel." It is hinted that this doorkeeper bore a drawn sword in his hand. He was called *ostiarius*, and "in addition to keeping the door of the church he taught his pupils in the porch," from which fact we have the modern use of the word *usher*, corrupted from *ostiarius*. This is nice too, and new also. The reader should turn to the book itself for curious observations on crypts, wherein the *confessio* of the seventh century and the bonehole of the fifteenth are put into the same crucible with vaults of classical times. And space will not allow us to do more than refer to Mr. Addy's musings upon Scotch "brochs" and Irish round towers, and their influence on the evolution of the English house. The grain of the book—which if winnowed from the chaff might be worth printing again—consists of interesting descriptions of some English houses of the humbler kind. Such buildings have generally been passed over by the antiquary and the sketching architect. The examples are chiefly taken from the northern counties, to which the writer is shown to belong by some of the words he uses. It is to be hoped he may

go on collecting, and give us these again with more; and it is worth while suggesting that in doing so he should make his plans to scale, and, so far as possible, to a uniform scale, and that he insert more drawings and fewer reproductions of photographs. Some of his photographic views of exteriors are extremely good; but the interiors are generally so obscure as to be almost unintelligible, and from the conditions of the case sometimes it could scarcely be otherwise with photography, when a sketch would make all clear.

An Old English Home and its Dependencies. By S. Baring-Gould. (Methuen & Co.)—Mr. Baring-Gould's book is before all things readable. Occasionally the connexion between the matter and the title-page is rather distant, and some statements are made which would not be accepted by every antiquary. The first chapter, on "Paternal Acres," begins with some stories of squatters, amongst them that of the "North Devon Savages," whose manner of life was noticed in some of the London newspapers a few years ago. There is a picture of their family mansion, with a pig entering the front door and the lady of the house sitting outside in the same costume as the pig. This singular community, we are told, is now broken up and their estate returned to the civilized world. But a story as remarkable as theirs is given by the author in the present tense and of his own neighbourhood. It is of a woman occupying a ruinous cottage till first the roof and then the floor fell in, and now at last living in an old chest with a sort of hut formed above it in one corner of the ruins. At each change in her arrangements the old lady has discovered that the new state of things is more convenient and comfortable than the last, and she is proud of living on her own freehold estate. The "Manor House" is treated of next, and Mr. Baring-Gould takes us further abroad than we care to follow him in his account of the origin of the manor. There is a fair description of the old English manor house, but we do not know what authority there is for the statement that "to almost every hall was a slit or eye and earlet hole communicating with a lady's chamber," "the Dionysius's ear of that domestic tyrant the lady of the house." A few such things did exist and do exist, but it is too much to say that the use of them was ever general in England. After the house itself the "Domestic Hearth," the "Furniture," and the "Ceilings" are discussed by turns in a mixture of description and story-telling with moderately good illustrations. We suppose it is because Mr. Baring-Gould is himself a squarson that he classes the "Parish Church" amongst the "dependencies" of his English home, and gives it the longest and perhaps the best chapter in the book. He has much to say on the ways of churchwardens and "restorers," but has himself not yet gone beyond the stage in which it is believed that it is possible by mechanical copying to bring back what those evildoers have destroyed. After the church comes the inn, which leads the writer off into stories of patrician and clerical tavern-keepers in Tyrol. These are of to-day, and the dweller in the old English home meets them only in his holiday wanderings; but such things once were in England. Bishop Nicholson, of Carlisle, notes in 1703 that the vicarage house of Ainstable is ruinous, and that the vicar "chiefly resides at a little alehouse kept either by his wife or daughter." We should have put the mill before the inn, as being the first in time and more closely connected with the manor. The chapter on the "Mill" in the book is made up of story-telling, and ends with a tailpiece representing a group of objects no doubt appropriate to the subject, but whether they are flour sacks or rats we are not sure. The chapter on "Cottages" is a good one, and of the rest that on "Scapegraces" is the most important. There are in it some grim tales of the end of the "Old English Home."

ARCHÆOLOGICAL TOUR THROUGH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

A SMALL party of antiquaries accomplished a successful driving tour last week from Monday to Saturday, during which they succeeded in visiting most of the more important early historical sites of this central shire. The tour was undertaken at the suggestion and request of Messrs. Archibald Constable & Co., in connexion with the forthcoming Northamptonshire volumes of the 'Victoria History of the Counties of England.' It was considered that in this way the specialists, as well as the local editors, would be best able to grasp the whole contour of the county, and to realize to some extent its successive occupations and gradual development from a wild woodland and swampy district to one of continuous cultivation. The party was composed of Prof. Boyd Dawkins, who is writing on the prehistoric period; of Mr. Reginald Smith (British Museum), who is undertaking the Anglo-Saxon section; of Mr. George, the curator of the Northampton Museum; and of the Rev. Dr. Cox and Mr. W. Ryland Adkins, who are the joint local editors of the Northamptonshire volumes. To these were added, for part of the time, Mr. Gotch, of Kettering, the well-known architect and writer on the English Renaissance, and Mr. T. Shepard, who will be responsible for the heraldry and family history of the work. Mr. Haverfield, of Christchurch, Oxford, who will write the Roman section, was unfortunately prevented from taking part in the tour.

Leaving Northampton in good time on Monday by Dern Gate, the site of the Anglo-Saxon mound just outside the old town walls was seen, with the stretch of country beyond which was the field of the fierce battle of Northampton. Queen Eleanor's cross on the hill to the south of the town, beautiful and stately, even in its mutilated condition, was noted. It would be cruel to attempt restoration, but surely the grass that flourishes round the base of the statues should be removed and the joints of the stonework in this part be carefully cemented. Leaving the main road, the finely situated "Danes' camp" on Hunsbury Hill was soon reached, where some of the very best relics of the late Celtic period were found a few years ago when working the area for iron-stone. A fosse with double rampart encloses some four acres, and it was pronounced to be a considerable settlement of pre-Roman times. Old masonry of shell limestone, brought from some distance, was noticed as having been used in the strengthening of the entrances. The surface, even in its disturbed state, abounds with interest to the observant eye. Prof. Boyd Dawkins, within a yard or two, picked up a large discoloured "pot-boiler," a chipped flint flake, and a slingstone. It is somewhat curious that so strong and commanding a site should never have been occupied by the Romans; they settled down on the lower lands, on the further side of the river, at Duston, where their coin-moulds and other traces of permanent residence have been found. The great stretch of old forest, from Salcey on the east to Whittlebury on the south, could be clearly followed from this eminence, with the dip in the high ground formed by the little river Towe, up whose course the earliest settlers who gained these upper woodlands probably passed. From Hunsbury progress was made through Blisworth, Milton, and Shutlaugh (where some domestic architecture of the fourteenth century was noted and photographed), to Towcester. Here the great tumulus to the north of the church, called Berry Mount Hill, was at once accepted as an Anglo-Saxon burh. It was doubtless strengthened when Towcester, under Edward the Elder, so gallantly resisted the Danes in 917. Leaving Towcester, an interesting detour was made to the Bucks boundary in Whittlebury Park, and after passing through Silverston and Syresham, a

halt was called at the picturesque little borough of Brackley, once so celebrated in the annals of the wool trade. The great bronze bushel measure of 1670, kept in the Town Hall, bears the lettering, "For the Auntient Corporation of Brackley." After leaving Brackley, as the evening advanced, the retired site of Rainsbury Camp, in Charlton township, now hidden by a belt of great beech trees, was reached. The enclosed area is six acres, or, embracing the whole circuit of the irregular oval, including the fosse, eleven acres. The principal entrances are W.S.W. and E.N.E., and here again were noticed considerable remains of walling. There can be no doubt that this is also of pre-Roman date. There are very few parts of England where two such early camps or enclosed settlements as Hunsbury and Rainsbury could be found within a short drive of each other. The grand tower and spire of Kings Sutton was passed as darkness began to close in, and the night was spent over the border at Banbury.

On Tuesday the first halt was made at Middleton Cheney, where the church was rebuilt after a beautiful style, circa 1330, by William de Edington, a great church builder, who was then rector here, and afterwards Bishop of Winchester. The sumbry, or locker, in the north wall of the chancel is peculiar in having an inner locker that has also had a door within it. When the top of the hill above Middleton Cheney was reached a small "camp," termed Arberry Hill, was examined. This proved to be a small protected settlement of Celtic times. Mr. Boyd Dawkins at once detected various circular hut bases. This commanding situation was probably continuously occupied from the Stone Age down to the incursion of the Romans. As a result of the visit it is expected that some excavations within the hut circles will be speedily undertaken. Edgcott was next reached, where the church has some fine sixteenth-century tombs of the Chauncy family. The holy-water stoups to the right hand of both the west and north doorways remain, strange to say, unutilized. At the next village of Chipping Warden some attention was given to the church, which was extensively rebuilt in the fifteenth century, and has a stone gospel lectern on the north side of the chancel, and a reredos below the east window, both of that date. But the earthworks to the west of the village, called respectively Arbury Banks and Wallow Bank, excited more curiosity. The first of these is certainly of Anglo-Saxon date, and marks a place of early cultivation; the second is more doubtful, but earlier, and possibly may have been a long barrow. When Preston Capes was reached the formidable entrenchments immediately to the north of the village were examined. They are probably mediæval. More time was given to Castle Dykes, a series of earthworks about two miles to the east. Here the antiquaries were satisfied that they had found a Roman camp as well as a Saxon burh and adjoining bailey. The retired church of Fawsley, hidden in a grove of trees in Fawsley Park, claimed some attention through its wealth of tombs of the Knightley family, as well as much sixteenth-century glass and wood carving. Another Arbury Hill, near Badby, marked "camp" on the Ordnance Map, was visited; but this proved to be a mere geological formation of marlstone on top of clay. Rest was taken on Tuesday night at Daventry.

An early start was made on Wednesday morning, when the antiquaries, under the able guidance of Mr. Willoughby, Town Clerk of Daventry, visited Burnt Wall, which is a Roman camp, and the great entrenched area of Borough Hill, where the Royalists under Charles I. were encamped for some days before the decisive fight at Naseby. The works of Borough Hill are undoubtedly prehistoric. On pursuing their way north the first halt was called at Ashby St. Ledgers. Here, almost touching the church, is the old residence of the Catesbys. In a chamber

over the half-timbered gateway the Gunpowder Plot is said to have been hatched. The church is mainly a good example of early Perpendicular work, and contains much fifteenth-century pewing, as well as some of Jacobean date. It is chiefly remarkable for the nearly perfect fifteenth-century rood-screen with platform above; the stairs and door to them are also in position. The large church of Crick is distinctly noteworthy as having the Decorated buttresses of the nave side by side with the small Early English ones which they superseded. Yelvertoft Church has a remarkable and most richly adorned sepulchral recess, with alabaster effigy, on the north side of the chancel, to a rector who died about the middle of the fifteenth century. Sibbertoft Church has lost all but a small fragment of the rich rood-screen which used to be its distinguishing feature. A pathetic little mural brass to the memory of Anthony Atkins, who died September 20th, 1561, tells how

Atkyns priest religious and lerned
Not having where to dwell
Wandering lycke at last heare stayed
Tyll deathe did lyfe expell

Poor Anthony was probably a Marian priest, dispossessed in the Elizabethan change of 1558.

Close to Sibbertoft the Ordnance Survey marks "castle yard," which is a Saxon burh. Near it are other entrenchments, much grown over, and probably prehistoric. They may possibly correspond with some more extensive and puzzling entrenched lines near Everdon, on the opposite side of the valley; but these seem to have been interfered with in mediæval days. The church of Marston Trussell, in the valley, is remarkable as being close adjacent to the bog in which many of the flying Royalist horse lost their lives in their precipitate flight from Naseby. A rude and very long chest beneath the tower, with the natural rounded half trunk of a tree for a lid, was pronounced to be twelfth century. The curious timber entrance to the north porch, formed from roughly hewn timber, following the natural curves of the tree, seemed to be of the end of the fourteenth century. The antiquaries halted for the night at Market Harborough.

On Thursday the main road that runs near the east bank of the Welland, which forms the north-western boundary of Northamptonshire from Leicestershire and Rutland, was followed (with but few deviations) right up to Stamford. Dingley Church is in no way remarkable, and not so interesting as the old hall in whose grounds it stands. Brampton Ash has a good village church, with chancel, nave, and aisles, temp. Edward I., and tower and spire with a few later alterations, temp. Richard II. Here the strange sight was noted of a bevy of maidens practising on the six bells, to defeat the machinations of a strike of ringers of the other sex! At Stoke Albany Church it was charming to read on an old battered board over the south porch: "Take notice. Men are desired to scrape their Shoes, and women to take off their Pattens before they enter this church." We venture to plead that this board should be removed and placed over the doorway within the porch, so as to preserve it from complete decay. A little further on the road was Wilbarston Church, where a sanctus bell-cote was noted on the east gable of the nave. Another mile or so, and East Carlton was reached, where the church was entirely rebuilt in 1788, and, strange to say, in very good imitation of Decorated style. Cottingham Church had the monstrous, and we hope unique addition to an old font of a brass beer-barrel tap driven into it on the west side just below the bowl! Some time was spent at the fascinating Castle of Rockingham, with its noble prospect. Every room and wall seems alive with historic interest, and it has the charm of having been continuously inhabited from Norman days to our own. The mound and earthworks in the grounds at the back of the castle are undoubtedly

those of the Saxon burh, which existed here long before the Norman invasion. Subsequently the antiquaries paid hasty visits to the churches of Gretton, Harringworth, and Colly Weston, en route to Stamford, where they took up their quarters for the night on the Northamptonshire side of that old and most interesting town. At Harringworth Church the head of a great fire-hook or fire-crome was noted. These hooks were attached to very long poles and used for dragging down cottages, to make a gap when rows of habitations were ablaze. At each of the churches of Raunds and Stanwick, in this county, a pair of these great hooks still remain under the tower with poles complete. At most of the churches visited this day and during the week "low-side windows" were noted in the chancels and carefully measured. The leper and confessional theories were both scouted, and the use of them for ringing the sanctus bell generally accepted.

On Friday morning the church of Wittering, some three miles to the south of Stamford, was first visited, where there is an abundance of remarkable, rude, and apparently early Saxon work. Afterwards Castor Church, a grand specimen of twelfth-century work with later additions, took up some little time, but more special attention was paid to the Roman and earlier remains that abound in this district. It was decided to pay another special visit to this site. The return journey southward was made through Morehay Lawn, a roadless region of stunted ancient oaks and weather-beaten thorn bushes, which is said to be the only untouched part of the once great forest of Rockingham. Great and Little Weldon, with certain Roman remains, had to be hastily passed, and a too brief sojourn at Geddington just enabled the peripatetic antiquaries to take a glimpse at the Eleanor Cross in the centre of this village, at the outside of the church, and at the few remains of the royal hunting lodge to the north-west of the church. A Roman road was identified in the fast waning light, running through fields almost parallel with the highway on the right hand between Geddington and Weekley. It was dark when Kettering was reached for the last night of the excursion.

On Saturday forenoon the antiquaries drove through Broughton, Pytchley, Orlingbury, and Mears Ashby, to the famed Saxon tower of Earl's Barton, and pronounced the great mound to the west of the church to be an undoubted burh of that period. On their return to Northampton, another big mound on the opposite side of the Nene valley, called Clifford's Hill, was also noted and assigned to a like origin.

A ROMAN PAVEMENT NEAR DORCHESTER.

Offa House, Upper Tooting, August 29, 1899.

In Fordington Field, just outside Dorchester, excavations connected with unfinished cottages have revealed, during the past week, a Roman pavement of admirable design and considerable extent. It is situated about 250 yards west-north-west of the amphitheatre and Roman road which runs thereby. Seeing that the land round about (the property of the Duchy of Cornwall) has probably not been disturbed for many centuries, there is no saying what further remains may not be discovered in the vicinity.

It lies about two feet beneath the surface, and some thirty by twenty feet or thereabouts have been exposed. It consists of a central octagonal ornament, surrounded by scrolls, guilloches, and similar designs, flanked north and south by oblong spaces, ornamented in a corresponding manner, but each containing in its centre a vase some two feet in length, elegant in shape, with two scroll handles. The tesserae are red, white, and black, and the artistic effect of the whole is excellent.

On the west side at regular intervals are three spaces covered with small cubes of red brick, which suggest passages leading to other

rooms. Not to enter into further detail, I will ask your kind permission to call attention to the probable importance of this discovery, having regard to the situation of the remains, and especially to the risk of injury which they run. When I was there they were in the custody of a builder's workman, who, no doubt with the best intentions, permitted many children and others to roam at will all over them, and occasionally, by way of heightening the effect of the colours of the pavement, poured water over it.

With no trace of compunction he informed me that they had destroyed several feet before they knew what they had found, a fact which was but too evident. In the interests of archaeology generally and of "Durnovarian" antiquities in particular, it is to be hoped that speedy steps will be taken to preserve a work which, in my opinion, is exceptionally fine of its kind.

J. J. FOSTER.

NOTES FROM ROME.

THE Basilica Julia was begun by Julius Cæsar about 54 B.C. on the site of the Tabernæ Veteres, and dedicated in an unfinished state in the year 46, together with the Forum Julium and the Temple of Venus Genetrix. Augustus rebuilt and enlarged the basilica after a fire, and opened it for public use—as a court-house—in the year 12, under the name of his grandsons Caius and Lucius. Suetonius, if I remember right, uses the expression "porticum basilicamque Caii et Lucii." Does he mean that there were two buildings bearing the names of the young princes, a portico and a basilica, or only one, viz., a basilica surrounded by a colonnade? The majority of topographers and historians are in favour of the latter surmise. Mommsen, 'Res Gestæ divi Augusti,' second ed., iv. 13, 15; Gerhard, 'Effemeridi Letterarie,' 1825, &c., know of one structure only, the Basilica Julia. The latest discoveries, however, seem to prove that the structures were really two: the well-known court-house, the remains of which are to be seen on the south side of the Forum, and a colonnade, the remains of which have just been laid bare on the opposite or north side, between the Basilica Æmilia and the Temple of Antoninus and Faustina. These remains have never been seen or touched or pillaged before; they form a perfect mountain of columns, friezes, cornices, and marble blocks, three of which pertain to a monumental inscription giving an account of the honours conferred by the Senate on Lucius Cæsar on the occasion of his fourteenth birthday. The same account occurs almost word for word in the 'Res Gestæ.' When I paid my farewell visit to these interesting excavations the workmen had not cleared yet half the site of the building. I cannot, therefore, advance any definite statement concerning the place which must be assigned to it in the history and topography of the Forum; nor can I give the full text of the dedicatory inscription. It will appear in the July number of the *Notizie degli Scavi*. On the back of one of the inscribed blocks I was astonished to read the following letters:—

.....EFSOM.

What can possibly be the meaning of this horsey and sportive word in such a place and on a marble of the time of Augustus? The explanation is easy; the stonemason entrusted with the task of carving the inscription of Lucius Cæsar must have made use of a block of marble upon which another marmorarius had been cutting the words

pl | EFSOM nis.

The cutting was given up after the first syllable of the second word, probably because a new text had been adopted for the dedicatory inscription. The form *pleps* instead of *plebs* occurs in other documents of the Augustan age, among which I may mention the two inscribed pedestals of the same young princes Caius and Lucius,

discovered last February not far from the site of the portico.

The director of the National Museum of Taranto, Prof. Quintino Quagliati, sends the announcement of an interesting find made at the "Scoglio del Tonno," where the stones for the building of the new mercantile harbour are being quarried. The limestone rock is covered at that spot by a bank of earth, six feet thick, composed of three layers of archaic remains. The superficial one contains remains of local pottery, older than the Protocorinthian ware, with the simplest kind of monochrome geometrical ornamentation. The middle layer, belonging to the period of the "terramare," contains traces of human habitations on palisades (*palafitte*), and the characteristic utensils of the "terramaricoli," such as razors with a curved blade sharpened on either side, drinking-cups with horned handles (*ansa cornuta*), fibulae of early Mycenaean type (*ad arco di violino*), &c. Stone implements of the neolithic period have been found in the third and lowest layer, next to the surface of the rock. The middle one is by far the most important of the three. It shows that the so-called civilization of the "terramare," long considered to be a speciality of the valley of the Po and of its affluents, pervaded at a certain time the whole peninsula, as far south as the Gulf of Taranto.

A contract was signed on July 19th between the representatives of the Borghese family, the Minister of Public Instruction, and the Minister of Finances, for the purchase by the State of the Borghese Museum and Gallery of Pictures for a sum of 3,600,000 fr. (144,000*l.*), to be paid in the space of ten years by annual instalments of 360,000 fr. each, without interest. We cannot be too grateful to Guido Bacelli, Minister of Instruction, for this patriotic and liberal achievement. If we consider that every great collector, every art institute of Europe and America, have been harassing the trustees of the Borghese estate for years and years to sell the contents of the famous casino; that the sum of 600,000 fr. has been offered for the 'Sacred and Profane Love' alone, we must be very glad indeed to see that the danger of losing so great a collection is to be feared no more. I am sure that the municipal authorities will proceed now to purchase the villa itself in the interest of the city. The measure was, in fact, approved by a considerable majority of town councillors two years ago; but it has never gone beyond the first reading, owing to a sudden and unexpected "volte-face" of the clerical party.

As I anticipated in my last notes, Prof. Ceci's illustration of the archaic inscription of the time of the kings has given rise to controversy. First to appear on the field was Prof. Christian Huelsen, the sub-director of the German Archaeological Institute at Rome, and the compiler of vol. vi. of the 'Corpus Inscriptionum.' His article, published in the *Berliner Philologische Wochenschrift* of August 5th, is divided into two parts. In the first he complains of the chauvinism of the Italians in general, and of the Italian Department of Antiquities in particular, for having reserved to themselves the right of publishing the text of the stele and of attempting its interpretation, before outsiders were allowed to copy or photograph the original. In the second part Prof. Huelsen condemns Prof. Ceci's interpretation, calling it a set of *hario-lations*, without advancing a different one on his side. As I have not seen the *Philologische Wochenschrift* of August 5th I cannot enter into the controversy. On one point, however, I agree with Ceci, that he and the Department of Antiquities cannot be accused of having lingered or tarried in making the text known to the scientific world. The *Notizie degli Scavi* containing it were published only three weeks after the discovery, a wonderfully short time for such a work. When the famous 'Commentarii Ludorum Secularium' were discovered on September 20th, 1890, near the church of S.

Giovanni de' Fiorentini, and the text, the interpretation of which had been entrusted to Theodor Mommsen, was kept secret for the lapse of a year, nobody complained of chauvinism. Should we also accuse of chauvinism the British Museum for having given to Kenyon the privilege of producing the *editio princeps* of the poems of Bacchylides? Prof. Ceci's articles in reply have appeared in the Roman newspaper *Il Popolo Romano* of Saturday, August 12th, Sunday, 13th, and Monday, 14th. The controversy will soon be taken up by Pais, Comparetti, Buecheler, and Ramorino.

Since I left Rome other finds have taken place on the Clivus Sacer opposite the Basilica of Constantine. There are a frieze belonging to a round structure, inscribed with the name of one of the Antonines; several pieces of statuary, among which is an arm with a bracelet in the shape of a snake; the head of a male portrait-statue; the front of a sarcophagus with the myth of Meleager in bold relief; and an inscription relating to Julia Domna, the wife of Septimius Severus. All these marbles, as well as a piece of one of the great porphyry pillars which ornamented the side entrance to Constantine's Basilica, have been found in the layer of rubbish between the old and the mediæval pavement of the Clivus Sacer.

The Minister of Public Instruction, encouraged by the good results of the present campaign, is now inquiring whether it would be possible, from the administrative and financial points of view, to extend the field of operations to the Fora of Julius Cæsar, Augustus, and Nerva. One of the difficulties which stand in his way is to be found in the network of trolleys which cross this classic district. They cannot be removed or suppressed without cutting off the communication between the low and the high quarters of the city. RODOLFO LANCIANI.

Finest Art Society.

FOR next Wednesday the Yorkshire Archaeological Society have arranged their second excursion of the year to Skipton and Bolton Priory. Mr. W. H. St. John Hope will act as guide at Skipton to the church and castle, and also at Bolton.

THE private view of the autumn exhibition of pictures and sculpture at Liverpool takes place to-day (Saturday).

THE death is announced of Mr. Andrew McKay, for many years the head of the firm of P. & D. Colnaghi & Co. He did useful work in forming and compiling the catalogues of some well-known collections.

THE following notice has been officially circulated, and appears to be an improvement on the system which is abandoned, as the latter favoured cramming the brighter children as well as neglecting the dullards:—

"The Lords of the Committee of Council on Education have under consideration the assessment of the efficiency of instruction in the Elementary Stage of Science and Art subjects by inspection only: it is proposed to discontinue examinations, as a test for the purposes of assessing the grant in that stage, after the year 1900. It is proposed that papers shall continue to be set in that stage for students who may desire to be examined and to possess a certificate of having passed the examination, but that in those cases a fee should be charged to cover the cost of examination."

THE artistic world has read with profound regret that Herr Adolf von Menzel has lately experienced a serious accident at Kissingen, dislocating one of his arms and breaking a collar-bone. Herr von Menzel is in his eighty-fourth year, and some years ago he met with a similar mishap owing to his great shortsightedness.

ANOTHER of the perpetually revised volumes which Her Majesty's Stationery Office issues with the title of 'Directory with Regulations for establishing and conducting Science

and Art Schools and Classes' has been published. Its rules—which are multifarious, are frankly stated to be such as "supersede those in all former editions, and are always subject to revision"—are likely to be somewhat of a trial to the teachers they are meant for.

MUSIC

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

FROM Messrs. Novello & Co. we have received: *Mazurka, Sérénade Mauresque, and Contrasts*, for the pianoforte, Op. 10, Nos. 1, 2, and 3, by Edward Elgar. The composer, in his 'Caractacus' and other choral works, has shown us that he can successfully handle large forms. In his *Orchestral Variations* he displayed skill and spontaneity; and now in small pianoforte pieces we find much to interest us. The *Mazurka*, with its piquant rhythm, its middle section commencing with a quaint falling phrase, and its lively *piu mosso* in major, with, by the way, a slight reminiscence of an early Grieg Humoreske, is pleasing. The 'Sérénade' is a delightful number, quaint and characteristic, full of thought, without any sense of labour. The sub-title of 'Contrasts' is 'the Gavotte, A.D. 1700 and 1900.' We admit its clever blending of old and new and its gracefulness; but it seems to us a transcription rather than a genuine pianoforte piece.

Chanson de Matin, for violin and pianoforte, also by Edward Elgar, is a light, refined piece, in which both instruments have attractive parts. Is the French title quite correct?—*Air de Ballet with Intermezzo*, for pianoforte, Op. 11, by Theophil Wendt. This is a light, engaging piece; but here, again, it is surely a transcription of orchestral music.—*The Recital Series of Original Compositions for the Organ: No. 15, Concert Overture in c Minor*, by Alfred Hollins. A brief introductory *andante*, foreshadowing the principal theme, leads to an interesting *allegro* in regular sonata form. The principal theme, in which one phrase curiously recalls a passage in Beethoven's c Minor Symphony, is vigorous, even defiant, and the second in proper contrast, calm and flowing. The workmanship is excellent, and the piece, in the best sense of the term, effective.

Original Compositions for the Organ, Nos. 274, 275, and 276. These three numbers contain Schumann's Six Studies for Pedal Pianoforte, Op. 56, arranged by John E. West, with careful and appropriate registration. These interesting pieces are most suitable for organ; at the same time the statement over the music that they were "originally composed for the Pedal Pianoforte" contrasts somewhat strangely with the heading under which they are classed.—*Meditation* from Edward Elgar's 'The Light of Life' ('Lux Christi'), arranged for organ by George C. Martin. This is an excellent transcription by the organist of St. Paul's Cathedral of an expressive orchestral movement which has deservedly met with much favour.—*Concène's Fifteen Vocalises*, edited by Alberto Randegger. The great value of these lessons for contralto (or mezzo-soprano) has been universally recognized, so that it will suffice to call attention to this edition, with marks of expression and phrasing by that experienced teacher Signor Alberto Randegger.

We have received from MM. Breitkopf & Härtel: *The Chorus of Sophocles' 'Antigone'*, by C. F. Abdy Williams, with an English paraphrase by G. S. Freeman. Mr. Williams wrote the music for a performance of the Greek play at Bradfield College, June, 1898. Not only did he try to write in the style of old Grecian music, taking as his guide the few fragments which have been discovered, but to give local colour he had instruments made as similar as possible to those used by the ancients: auloi, after the Pompeii models, and lyres. All the

choruses are in unison, but some of the vocal music is accompanied by very elementary harmony, such as, from certain passages in Greek writers, is supposed to have been used. The experiment is most interesting, though of course, apart from the play, the music does not prove particularly entertaining. The choruses are preceded by a brief account of tropes, modes, modulation, rhythm, and accents, and this, quite apart from its special object, viz., to throw light upon the choruses under notice, is well worthy of perusal; it is succinct and remarkably clear.

Joh. Seb. Bach's Werke: Orgelmusik, Lief. 1.—To pianists the "48" no doubt appear the greatest fugues ever written; to organists, the organ fugues. But each series is wonderful, and it cannot be said that the one is greater than the other. Herr Emil Naumann, editor of this new publication, of which only the first part has appeared, has carefully phrased the music throughout. He makes no pretension to have discovered the one and only true interpretation, but what he has done will prove of immense service to players who are not of themselves able to group the notes in fitting manner; music without phrase marks is like a book without punctuation. Herr Naumann's phrasing is occasionally peculiar; his slur sometimes seems to include too many, sometimes too few, notes. This, however, is a minor matter; the help offered is great, and deserves recognition. Besides phrase, there are finger marks, and general hints as to registration.

Bach: Two-Part and Three-Part Inventions. Two books, edited by Ferruccio B. Busoni.—These Inventions form an admirable introduction to Bach's more elaborate works. They are truly delightful pieces, excellent practice for the fingers, and strengthening food for the intellect. Signor Busoni, who ranks among the best pianists of the day, has spared no pains to make this edition valuable to teachers and students. There are finger, phrase, and other marks; also each Invention is accompanied by useful analytical remarks. Mr. Louis C. Elson is responsible for the English text, which, however, requires revision before a second edition is issued. Notes of this kind, in which technical terms are employed, should be perfectly clear and precise.

Lili-Tsé: a Japanese Tale in One Act. By Wolfgang Kirchbach, music by Franz Curti. Vocal score by Hugo Röhr.—Some of the operas of Curti, who died only last year, met with much success, particularly this one. The story is amusing. A young English girl travelling in Japan loses her mirror. It is picked up by a Jap who, on looking into it, and recognizing the features, believes he has found a portrait of his father; and his wife, seeing her own pretty face in it, fancies that it is the picture of some damsel who has won the affection of her husband. All this naturally gives rise to much misunderstanding; in the end, however, everything is set right. There is plenty of local colour in the music—Japanese melodies and *samisen* sounds; there are representative themes, and some clever polyphonic developments. The music, in which there are traces of Weber and Wagner, is bright and humorous.

Merry Christmas. According to the title-page, this is "a choice collection of medium difficult piano compositions by modern composers." This description of the album, though somewhat cumbrous, gives a fair idea of the music contained in it. There are in all twenty-five numbers, and the list of composers' names is promising. America is represented by Mr. E. MacDowell, whose *Improvisation*, Op. 46, No. 4, forms the concluding number; but there is no piece by an English composer. Publication about Christmas time will account for the title given to the collection; the music, however, can be played and enjoyed all the year round.

Musical Gossip.

MR. ROBERT NEWMAN opened Queen's Hall for his fifth season of Promenade Concerts last Saturday evening. This year he proposes to give forty-two concerts, thus carrying the enterprise well into October. Towards the close of that month the Saturday Symphony Concerts will be resumed, and the regular London musical season, which now extends, with but brief intervals at holiday periods, from October to July, will begin in earnest. As in former years, the platform at Queen's Hall has been decked out with handsome palms and flowering plants, a cool effect being obtained by means of large blocks of ice inserted among the blooms that border the orchestra. Several new players have recently joined the Queen's Hall band, and there is every reason to believe that the recruits are fully justifying their selection. Mr. Henry J. Wood is once more at the conductor's desk, and—owing, perhaps, to having established so complete and thorough an understanding with his instrumentalists—now dispenses, when conducting, with a good deal of that demonstrative action which in earlier days was probably engendered by anxiety. This change of attitude was particularly noticeable in his direction of Liszt's 'Hungarian' Rhapsody in F, the first piece in Saturday's programme; but although infinitely more tranquil in demeanour, the much-esteemed conductor made his points quite as effectively as ever. Among the favourite works performed on Saturday was the first suite derived from Grieg's 'Peer Gynt' music, and here the treatment of the graceful and melodious 'Morgenstimmung' was marked by praiseworthy refinement and delicacy. Wagner contributed the Overture to 'Rienzi,' in the performance of which the brass flung themselves upon their task with a larger measure of enthusiasm than was perhaps necessary. This piece, by the way, seemed to please the audience better than any of the others. The only novelty in the scheme was a little piece entitled 'Valse-Badinage,' by Anatole Liadoff, intended as an imitation of a musical snuff-box. This bright and gay trifle is cleverly scored for piccolo, two flutes, three clarinets, harp, and celesta. Last year Mr. Newman introduced a clever boy pianist, Wolodia Roujitzky, at the Promenade Concerts. This time he has secured the services of a talented young 'cellist. Paul Bazelaire, the new prodigy, was born at Sedan little more than twelve years ago. He studied at the Paris Conservatoire under Delsart, and his ability has already ensured for him a warm welcome in French and German musical circles. The boy played the solo in Saint-Saëns's violoncello concerto with genuine artistic feeling and remarkable executive facility. His musical gifts are evidently of a high order. Miss Kirkby Lunn, Mr. Ellison van Hoose, and Mr. Knowles supplied the vocal music at the first concert.

On Monday evening the first part of the programme was entirely given up to Wagner. The Queen's Hall band offered careful and meritorious renderings of the Overture to 'The Flying Dutchman,' the preludes to 'Lohengrin' and 'Tristan,' together with the orchestral arrangement of the closing scene from the work last mentioned, the "Walkürenritt," and "Siegfried's Rheinfahrt" from 'Götterdämmerung.' In the 'Lohengrin' Prelude the string players distinguished themselves by their remarkable steadiness and precision, and at all points the instrumentalists fully upheld their reputation. Miss Yvonne de Treville, an American soprano new to London, sang "Elizabeth's Greeting" from 'Tannhäuser' with spirit and discretion, but without much breadth of style. Mr. Ellison van Hoose offered an intelligent and vocally effective rendering of "Lohengrin's Narrative," and Miss Kirkby Lunn sang 'Schmerzen' and 'Träume' in tasteful fashion.

TSCHAIKOWSKY'S vigorous and picturesque Overture Solennelle '1812,' intended as a

memorial of the invasion of Russia by Napoleon and of the disastrous retreat of the French army from Moscow, was performed on Tuesday evening. Mr. Wood and his men, as usual, dealt in resolute and convincing style with this forceful and singularly interesting composition, laying full stress upon its fiery and impetuous qualities. Beethoven's 'Coriolan' Overture was played with due care and strength, and other works submitted were Dvorák's sparkling 'Carneval' Overture, Massenet's graceful and melodious suite 'Les Erinnyes,' and the Dream Pantomime from 'Hänsel and Gretel.' The vocal pieces were in the hands of Madame Fanny Moody, Miss Kirkby Lunn, and Mr. Charles Manners.

ON Wednesday evening, Tchaikowsky's suite from the 'Casse-Noisette' ballet music, one of the works that the Queen's Hall band always plays specially well, figured in the programme. It was given with customary refinement and polish, and the delightful 'Danse des Mirlitons' was repeated. Other works submitted were the Overture to 'Egmont,' the 'Ruy Blas' Overture, Mr. Cowen's 'Four Old English Dances,' and Moussorgsky's 'March in a flat.' Mr. Ferri played two viola solos in good style, and the vocalists were Miss de Treville, who sang Baucis's air 'O riant Nature' prettily, Mr. Van Hoose, and Mr. Knowles.

THE financial results of the Bayreuth Festspiele are reported to have been very satisfactory. It is computed that the receipts have amounted to about 600,000 marks, which sum is expected to leave, in spite of very great outlays, a considerable balance.

THE unveiling of a monument in celebration of the hundredth anniversary of the death of the composer Carl Dittersdorf (1739-1799) will take place at Freiwalddau (Silesia) on October 13th. His comic opera 'Doktor und Apotheker,' produced in 1786, in its day enjoyed considerable popularity, and it is still occasionally heard in Germany.

IN connexion with the General Congress for the Comparative Science of History, which is to be held next year at Paris, there will be an International Congress for the History of Music.

CARL GOLDMARK has entirely recast his opera 'Merlin,' and it is expected to be performed in its new shape during the next season at the Hofopernhaus of Vienna.

RICHARD WAGNER'S *Jugendarbeit*, 'Die Feen,' has recently been performed at the Hof- und National-Theater of Munich with considerable success.

Le Ménestrel of August 27th gives the distribution of rôles for the forthcoming performances of 'Tristan' at Paris, under the direction of M. Charles Lamoureux: Tristan, MM. Gibert and Em. Lafargue; Kurwenal, MM. Georges Chais and Sempé; Le Roi Marke, MM. Vallier and Challet; Yseult, Mesdames Litvinne, L. Pacary, and Janssen; Brangaine, Mesdames Bréma, Darlays, and Spanyi.

PERFORMANCES NEXT WEEK.

MOX. Promenade Concert, 8, Queen's Hall, and 8, Covent Garden.
TUES. Promenade Concert, 8, Queen's Hall, and 8, Covent Garden.
WED. Promenade Concert, 8, Queen's Hall, and 8, Covent Garden.
THURS. Promenade Concert, 8, Queen's Hall, and 8, Covent Garden.
FRI. Promenade Concert, 8, Queen's Hall, and 8, Covent Garden.
SAT. Promenade Concert, 8, Queen's Hall, and 8, Covent Garden.

DRAMA

The Stage-Quarrel between Ben Jonson and the so-called Poetasters. By Roscoe Addison Small, Ph.D. (Breslau, Marcus.)

Nothing shows more plainly the influence over subsequent ages exercised by the dramatic literature of Elizabethan and Jacobean times than the fact that a quarrel between Jonson and some of his poetic contemporaries, which in its own day begot no special interest, is now held all-important

in respect of dramatic criticism and exegesis, and still exercises the best Shakespearean scholars of the age. It is true that we owe to the quarrel in question two plays, 'The Poetaster' and 'Satiromastix,' and, according to the latest and most moderate conclusions, considerable portions of eight others. True, also, is it that some of the greatest of the Elizabethan writers, including Shakespeare himself, were supposedly mixed up in the feud, and it is held that it "shocked" one writer, Marston, into greatness, "by making him discard the crudities and extravagances of his early style." Others besides Mr. Swinburne will hold not a few of the matters in question insignificant, and some, even, will marvel at the sort of possession that will lead men of penetrative insight into neglect of the laws of evidence and into dogmatism of assertion usually reserved for theological polemics. There is no surer proof of conscious weakness than the use of "undoubtedly" and "certainly" in discussion, and of such words much of the literature concerning Jonson and his associates and subsequent antagonists is made up.

A new and capable champion, with a complete mastery of the swashing blow, has rushed into the fray and laid lustily about him. No doughtier combatant has been seen. Unfortunately, before his opponents have had time to rub their shoulders and recognize the extent of their injuries, he is beyond their reach. Born at Portland, Maine, in 1871, Dr. Small had a brief and distinguished career at Harvard University, undertook in 1897 an English Instructorship at Brown University, Providence, threw himself with what seems to have been characteristic earnestness into Shakespearean studies, and died a year ago without being able to revise the proof-sheets of much more than a third of his present work. Thoroughly versed in the Elizabethan drama, full of energy and fight, possessor, it is claimed for him, of "a keen eye for the positive significance of details apparently trifling," and endowed with "a high degree of constructive ability," he would probably have taken a considerable position as a textual critic. Of the value of his present work it is difficult to speak with precision, since it challenges at many points investigation and consideration it is not easy at once to bestow. Besides reducing what is called "the poetaster quarrel" to proportions much smaller than have hitherto been awarded it and aiding to assign it the right place in the history of Elizabethan literature, the work shows great acumen. So far as it is destructive it is excellent, and some of our best-known pundits must wince at the manner in which their theories are dismissed as unsound, futile, or ridiculous. It is a different matter, however, when we come to debate how far Dr. Small is justified in some of his own assumptions. This, at least, may be granted, that his ingenuity of conjecture and his reasoning powers are not less than his knowledge of the texts with which he deals, and that there are few of his statements or his conjectures that can summarily be dismissed. Not seldom, indeed, he brings light wholly unexpected upon the questions with which he deals. As an instance of his observation of things passed over by others, he fills out thus a

portion of the dedication underneath the portrait of Chapman prefixed to his translation of Homer. For a portion of the dedication as it appears in the translation—

Eruditorum Poetarum huius Aevi, facile Principi Dno. Georgio Chapman.

Homero (velit nolit Invidia) Redivivo J. M. Tessellam hanc.

Χαρίημιον, D.D.—

he substitutes:—

Eruditorum Poetarum huius Aevi, facile Principi,

Dno. Georgio Chapman; Homero (velit nolit Invidia) Redivivo,

J(ohannes) M(arston) Tessellam hanc Χαρίη[η]μιον, D(at) D(edicatque).

At the outset a highly ingenious new reading seems to be worthy of consideration. In his conversation with Drummond of Hawthornden Jonson gives us the cause of his quarrel with Marston—that Marston represented him, *i.e.*, on the stage, in his youth given to venerie. No play has yet been discovered bearing out the assertion. Dr. Small, by a change of punctuation, simplifies matters, and reaches the right explanation. He inserts a full point after "stage," and connects the subsequent words with the following sentence, with which they completely accord. How brilliant and convincing is this emendation must be seen by reference to the 'Conversations.' The effect is to render perfectly intelligible the whole cause of the quarrel, which took rise in Jonson's morbid susceptibility. We have marked many instances in which Dr. Small's readings deserve closest attention. See especially p. 64, the explanation concerning "Jack of Paris Garden," which Dr. Small takes to be an actual ape, kept for show in Paris Garden.

Space fails us to do justice to the work. Dr. Small deals summarily with many of the conjectures of Mr. Fleay, to whose services to dramatic literature he pays, however, a handsome tribute. With these comments Mr. Fleay will be able to deal when he completes his contemplated monograph on Marston. See his 'Chronicle History of the Stage,' under 'Marston,' 'Jack Drum's Entertainment.'"

Dramatic Gossip.

MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER appeared at the Princess of Wales's Theatre, Kennington, on Monday in 'The Prisoner of Zenda.' This marks the beginning of a country tour lasting until the end of the year, soon after which the company will return to the St. James's, now undergoing elaborate processes of alteration and restoration. The travelling repertory includes also 'The Man of Forty' (not yet seen in London), 'In Days of Old,' and 'The Ambassador.' On October 5th 'Rupert of Hentzau' will be played in Glasgow, and will be thenceforward added to Mr. Alexander's list.

On October 25th Mr. and Mrs. Cyril Maude will reappear at the Haymarket with the long-promised adaptation of 'La Tulipe Noire.'

WITH the reopening on Thursday of the Haymarket, of the Olympic on Friday, and of the Lyceum and the Duke of York's this evening, an autumn season which bids fair to be of exceptional interest must be held rather prematurely to have begun.

A "COPYRIGHT performance" of 'The Ghetto' has been given at the Comedy Theatre, the precaution being judged necessary, since the regular production in England of the

piece on Thursday next is likely to be anticipated in America.

IN to-night's revival at the Lyceum of 'The Silver King' none of the original cast except Mr. Wilson Barrett will be found. Most of the parts have, indeed, known many successive representatives.

WITH the production of 'Going the Pace,' a four-act drama by Messrs. Ben Landeck and Arthur Shirley, first given last October at the Pavilion in Whitechapel, and since seen at various outlying houses, the Princess's seems definitely to abandon its position as a West-End theatre. The presentation of aristocratic life is such as could only pass current with an unsophisticated public, and plot and incidents belong to what was once called transpontine melodrama. Clever acting is exhibited in three or four characters, but the piece, which introduces a hunting field with huntsmen and hounds in full cry, depends at least as much upon equine performers as upon human.

'POT-POURRI' is, after all, not further to try its fortune in London. Mr. Frank Curzon will produce shortly at the Avenue a new piece, the name of which is not yet declared, which will, it is expected, fill the house until the return of Mr. Charles Hawtrey, who has in reserve a new farcical comedy.

IT may seem anomalous to note under the drama the death of one whose sole recognizable claim to occupy a position of the kind consisted in his having been at one time in his life an amateur actor. So mixed up with actors and the stage generally was Mr. Edmund Routledge, however, that he was generally regarded from the dramatic point of view. An intimate friend of leading actors, such as Sir Henry Irving, Mr. Tree, Mr. Kendal, and Mr. Wyndham, he was constantly in their company, and was, perhaps, the most assiduous of all attendants at first representations. With these he was, indeed, to some extent concerned, having occasionally acted in a rather *dilettante* fashion as a theatrical critic. So striking a resemblance did he bear to Mr. Wyndham that the suggestion that they should play together the two Dromios or their masters, though made in jest, seemed capable of being seriously carried out. Again and again the presence of Mr. Routledge at a gathering has led to the announcement that Mr. Wyndham was present, and cries of "Wyndham! Wyndham!" have been heard when the toast of "Actors" was proposed, and a response was hoped from one who, in fact, was not present. Mr. Routledge, who was at the Adelphi the night before his death, was a frequent and popular attendant at the Garrick Club.

THE Vaudeville will reopen on Saturday next with 'The Elixir of Youth,' by Messrs. Leonard Merriek and George R. Sims, an adaptation of 'Bockspruenge,' by MM. Hirschberger and Kraatz.

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A Browning Query. — 'Pippa Passes,' lines 10-12:—

Till the whole sunrise, not to be suppressed,
Rose, reddened, and its seething breast
Flickered in bounds, grew gold, then overflowed the world.
This is the reading of the editions of 1849, 1863, 1868, 1889, and 1896; but the first edition (1841), instead of "Rose, reddened," has "Rose-reddened." Is not this almost certainly what Browning intended? I cannot think it probable that he would wittingly have written "the sunrise rose."
ALFRED FORMAN.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—W. J. L.—F. S. E.—H. J. S. B. C.—received.

F. E. W.—Many thanks.

K. B.—Too belated for use.

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